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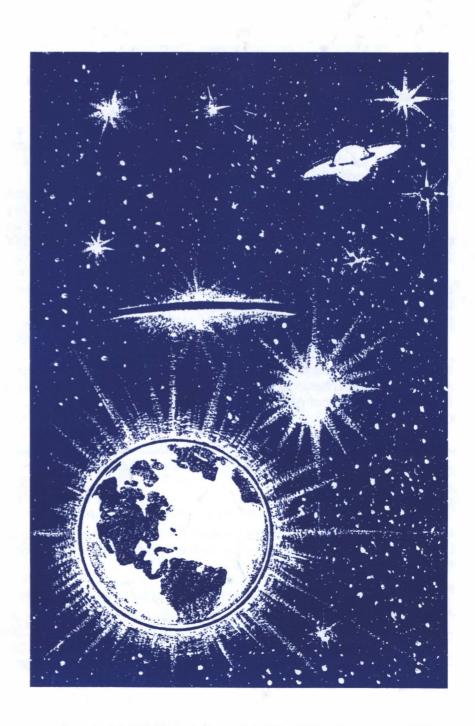
More Revelations
From Controversial UFO
Writer Peter Kor

Strange Birds of the Allegheny Plateau

Demigods Among Us!

A Visit to the National UFO (and New Age) Conference

UFOs in Russia & Canada! Controversial Letters! & More!



THE WORD IS OUT!

Dear Friend.

Some 15 years ago, I was the editor of **Caveat Emptor**, a controversial, trailblazing UFO and New Age magazine. Like other publications of the period, it finally published its last issue and disappeared from the scene.

Then, in July, 1988, I had a crazy idea. I decided the time was at last right to bring back

Caveat Emptor.

While the decision to revive the magazine came a lot of uncertainty. **Caveat Emptor** occupied a distinct and special place in the minds and hearts of our readers. I remember how some of them (perhaps you, if you were one of our original subscribers) would tell me how the magazine would transport them away from the hum-drum daily routine and into a marvelous world of excitement and wonder.

I didn't know if I could re-create that kind of feeling on the part of my readers. I didn't know

if I could feel it myself anymore.

A few months later and the hard work of putting out that first issue was over. I had to

await the reaction from my readers.

I wasn't long in coming. I was truly amazed that anyone remembered us at all. The avalanche of letters from my new, loyal readers just knocked me out!

Here are a few of them:

"I was particularly impressed with the *quality* of the writing. I would like to see your magazine succeed. There is a need for a...magazine that does not accept every story that comes down the pike."

M.D.

Federal Way, WA

"Welcome back into the UFO world. I believe I have copies of all previous **Caveat Emptors** in my files. You were sorely missed."

G.F.

Lincolnton, NC

"You have a great magazine! Please keep it going."

J.M.

Oak Park, MI

"Welcome back! Delighted to see **CE** once again. It's needed more than ever!"

J.R.

London, England

"Thank god there are people like you putting sanity into UFO magazines."

L.V.

Ivyland, PA

These letters speak for themselves. I would just like to take this opportunity to add that many of our original writers have returned with new perspectives, and with bold, new findings about the strange and unknown. The UFO field is indeed changing, and **Caveat Emptor** is the magazine that will help pave the way for that change.

Are you ready to go where no one has gone before? Then subscribe to **Caveat Emptor** right now. Order a single copy—or subscribe now at a special introductory rate.

And thanks for reading my letter.

Peace,

Gene Steinberg

Caveat Emptor, Dept. 20 8 Gate House Lane Edison, NJ 08820

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coveat emptor

Winter, 1989-90

"We are kept ignorant not by the things we don't know, but by the things we know that ain't so."

—Author Unknown

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Editorial:

Back Where We Once Belonged

By Gene Steinberg

I just think that one of the reasons we aren't accomplishing anything meaningful in UFO research is because the right questions aren't being asked.

NOT JUST ANOTHER SPACESHIP

n 1971—in the first issue of CAVEAT EMPTOR—I wrote an editorial about the state of the art of UFO research. As much as I usually prefer to look ahead, I find some of those words worth quoting:

"Little that the so-called experts have done has contributed one iota to the solution of the UFO enigma. And as the mystery deepens, we find that some of them have abandoned UFO investigation, because of disillusionment and frustration."

This scenario has has been played out again and again through the years. A large part of our readers, in fact, never heard of us back then, probably never heard much about UFOs and similar subjects except for an occasional item in the newspapers, the supermarket tabloids, or a rare broadcast news item in the summer, when nothing much else is going on.

So when people go around suggesting they have a unique approach to the mystery—only to resurrect some long-discarded theory—I am not surprised. The lesson of history, as I have suggested in recent issues, is a lesson that is seldom learned in this field.

In the 1950's, when I was young and foolish, I first read about flying saucers. We didn't call them UFOs then (that was done later on to give the field a measure of respectability). It didn't take too long for me to realize that something really strange was going on. Like many others, I quickly decided that the phenomenon represented a visit by some kind of alien intelligence to our world. I grew up watching science fiction movies and reading science fiction novels. It was a natural assumption to make.

As my studies of the strange and unknown progressed, I came to question the wisdom of my ideas, first formulated when I was still a teenager. The theory

wasn't developed on the basis of available evidence. In fact there was little evidence available of anything, except eyewitness testimony about strange goings on in the sky, some photographs (most of them questionable, to say the least), and a number of reports of radar tracking.

So-called close encounters weren't given a whole lot of credence then. Many tried to put the phenomenon at arm's (or saucer's) length.

Instead, I had theorized by a process of elimination. There were no earthy aircraft that could perform the incredible maneuvers ascribed to flying saucers. Since they didn't come from here, they had to come from another planet.

The theory was quickly embraced by a host of researchers who went through the same simple process: The theory holds true today as much as ever, and the abduction scenario even leads many to speculate on what our supposed alien visitors look like, and the planet from which they come. One of our readers, in fact, has a publishing project dedicated solely to analyzing the propulsion systems employed by our alien visitors, accompanied by an assortment of odd and complex equations that would challenge the best mathematician to figure out.

Since I am neither an engineer or scientist—just a humble journalist—I try to avoid getting involved in such things. I do admit that it may be fun and all to wonder about what form alien visitors might take, about their technology and culture. It's the stuff science fiction novels are made of, and I like them as much as anyone.

But all this fine and fancy speculation isn't really getting us anywhere. It's entertaining, and I would be as excited as anyone if it were really true that the aliens were among us—that is if their presence wasn't anything to be frightened about, naturally.

It's just that I can't buy the "Well what else can UFOs be?" approach taken by so many people. Life doesn't have such simple answers. The daily newspapers will tell you that—the evening news on television portrays it perhaps more graphically.

A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT SOME QUESTIONS

I have to admit that my whole line of questioning

might be questionable, to be perfectly redundant. But I just think that one of the reasons we aren't accomplishing anything meaningful in UFO research is because the right questions aren't being asked—and maybe we should all look at our thought processes a little more carefully and see if we can't come up with a different way of looking at things.

In this issue, I am concluding a two-part interview with Peter Kor, a fellow who has a decidedly different viewpoint about the cause and effect of flying saucers, to put it mildly. I can't say that I necessarily agree with everything he says, but he gets one to thinking, which is his purpose, of course. I have followed his writings almost from the beginning in the early 1960's. While he is quick to criticize many others—with considerable justification—about having hidden agendas in their research, Kor's motives are very up front.

He isn't looking for profit or glory. He simply wants to know what's going on. And maybe that puts him ahead of a lot of other people, whether you agree with him or not.

It's fair to say that many people have invested a lot of time and money on various business ventures that deal with this subject. If the UFO mystery were solved tomorrow—whatever answer develops—those businesses would likely go down the drain, unless the entrepreneurs were smart enough to hedge their bets and have something else in mind when the end came.

So as many as some folks might loudly proclaim that their goal is to solve the mystery, the consequences of that solution might hit them right where it hurts. I don't want to suggest that there may be reasons to keep the mystery a mystery. But such thoughts occur occasionally to all of us, about what might happen next. If our livelihood depends on this subject, and we have to pay the credit card bills and keep the kids in college, the prospect that ET might land tomorrow on Capital Hill and put us out of business must surely generate a few nightmares.

Or maybe a few abductions.

I have been in UFO research long enough to know that I won't get rich from it. CAVEAT EMPTOR does not exist strictly to explore UFOs, although a lot of it has been devoted to that subject in the first new issues I've published. I am interested in any mystery that remains a mystery. There are a lot of strange things going on around us that we don't understand.

As I said in an earlier editorial, most people have experienced something that seems odd in their lives. It may be a feeling of contact with a dead relative, a sense that something is about to happen before it actually takes place, sightings of strange creatures and weird apparitions in the night.

Proof that UFOs are spaceships won't make those other mysteries go away. As much as I am fascinated by the subject, I feel I could live with the knowledge of

its solution, whatever that solution may be.

Yes, I'd like this magazine to succeed—and at least return some of the thousands of dollars I have invested in it through the years. If it doesn't I'll live with that, and treasure the experiences I've had and the friendships I've developed through the years.

And I'd like my colleagues in the field to put their cards on the table too. Read Peter Kor's concluding words in my interview with him elsewhere in this issue. Give his self-appraisal a try. Then you will be ready to go on and ask the right questions that might result in a solution to the presence of UFOs.

WHAT AM I LEADING TO?

Do I have any ulterior motives in this line of thought? Well, perhaps.

In the first four issues of our newly resurrected magazine, I have spent quite a bit of space questioning the conventional wisdom about flying saucers—with good reason, I feel.

None of the explanations put forth so far have been proven—far from it. UFOs remain as enigmatic as ever in their assorted comings and goings in our skies and—if the abduction scenario has any merit—in our bedrooms.

The phenomenon has persisted for decades, perhaps centuries, perhaps throughout all of recorded history. A phenomenon that ubiquitous has implications for us that are vast.

If we are truly being visited by ET and his cohorts in spaceships, there's got to be hundreds of them invading our air space. With all of the traffic we've got in the sky, it must be getting pretty crowded indeed. Surely sightings by airline pilots wouldn't be an occasional happenstance, but a daily, even hourly occurrence—unless those UFOs were based somewhere on our world, and only flew about when absolutely necessary.

Is that very likely?

Well, surely we would have found some evidence for a hidden base somewhere, hollow Earth advocates aside for the moment. There are just too many people going too many places not to have discovered something in our little planet by this time.

And what about our eccentric friends John Lear and Bill Cooper? They have been telling us that ET and his comrades have for years been involved in some sort of secret pact with our government—perhaps the governments of other nations as well—and we are in regular touch with them.

Is that possible?

As I suggested in my editorial in Issue #19, if we had truly been intimately involved in some sort of collaboration with an alien intelligence, there would be some technological result somewhere along the line. The evidence that our technology has taken some mysterious leap forward eludes us—the suggestion that it's all being deliberately kept secret is untenable.

To deny the possibility that UFOs are spaceships is not to deny the possibility that there is some kind of phenomenon that is generating reports of UFO sightings. One doesn't preclude the other.

If what we are seeing is solid—as solid as we are, then there are other possibilities as well. In his recent lecture in New York, abductee Whitley Strieber suggests that our "visitors" might perhaps be time travelers from some distant point in the future. They might be here to observe us, or to redress some wrong that has harmed them in their own century. We still have to confront the science fiction concept of the time paradox, however, that changing even an insignificant occurrence in our own time might hold vast implications for the future.

I recall an episode of the old *Star Trek* TV series that depicted such a consequence, in which the starship *Enterprise* vanished until the factor that changed the direction of history was removed.

Some 25 years or so ago, my old friend Allen Greenfield and I postulated an "alternate reality" theory as a solution to the UFO problem. We put our "visitors" in a parallel universe, which can interact with ours deliberately or by accident. To our youthful minds, this seemed an ideal way to account for the ability of UFOs to seemingly circumvent our own physical laws.

All this, however, assumes that UFOs are real, physical craft piloted by real physical people. And there's the rub. Perhaps what we are observing and experiencing has no physical cause at all, at least in the way we interpret a physical cause. Perhaps our own subconscious minds—highly complex and dimly understood things that they are—are generating images of strange apparitions in our midst, and UFOs are only one aspect of such images.

The presence of such apparitions—and even an accompanying physical effect—might fulfill some innate spiritual longing that we have. The late UFO pioneer Ray Palmer, who is thought of as the father of flying saucers in many circles, frequently suggested that the phenomenon was here to make us think.

Think about what?

Well, Ray said, first and foremost, the spiritual imbalance of modern man. We have achieved great things technologically, and even the way CAVEAT EMPTOR is now produced represents one of those marvels, but we have lost our souls in the process. The messages contactees give us contains the same warning. We are destroying ourselves in our insane quest for material goods without the concomitant spiritual responsibility that goes with dealing with such things.

That would surely explain the messages implicit in the advent of the saucers in modern times—and possibly even the religious implications of ancient encounters that have UFO overtones, such as the accounts that so many researchers point to in the bible and other texts Perhaps the growing suspicion that our governments have been encouraging the spread of the UFO mystery to cover up testing of secret weapons and aircraft also has some merit. That could surely account for a decent percentage of modern sightings. It might also in part explain the legends of crashed spaceships that date back to shortly after the end of World War II, when the United States was busy testing German weapons and aircraft to see if they had any value.

In my review of the William Moore and Charles Berlitz Book, *The Roswell Incident* (see Issue #17), I posed the idea strictly to generate some speculation, not as something I really believed. Aside from Moore's colleague Stanton Friedman, no one took me seriously—except perhaps for Peter Kor, who has long harbored similar suspicions.

There are obviously quite a few people out there who suggest the UFO mystery is solved—they're space-ships—and our only goal is to tell the world.

I don't agree.

I think the jury is still out on this whole issue. I think the what's and the why's of the UFO question are still not understood, and we've got to get cracking to find out just what's going on.

PERSONAL NOTES by 1948 the land was a stronger

Readers with an eye for details will see some changes in the layout and typeface used for this issue. Up until now, I have produced CAVEAT EMPTOR entirely by traditional typesetting methods, a tried and true technique that goes back several centuries.

But this is a new world as far as technology is concerned—and old fashioned typography is rapidly becoming obsolete. Desktop publishing in all its varieties is gradually taking over large segments of the market. Whole books and magazines (such as *Fate* and a number of computer publications) are produced by a personal computer, some very fancy software, and perhaps even a laser printer (a copier that closely emulates a digital typesetting machine).

Our entire mailing list is now computerized—all on the same system, by the way, and it also balances the checkbook and plays games. This means that the entire production process for CAVEAT EMPTOR (except for the actual printing, of course) can take place on my desk at home. I can even answer your mail without leaving my desk.

I don't want you to feel that I am becoming a hermit in my old age, but I've made a major investment for the future of this magazine, and for the future of other magazines I have on the drawing boards—which I'll talk about when the time is right.

In the meantime, I hope you like the results. Without detracting from the basic charm of this magazine, there will be more changes to come in the future. Stay with us.

—Gene Steinberg

Readers' Forum

GROUND RULES: Please keep your letters short and to the point. We will not edit your letters except for spelling and grammatical errors. Deletions will be indicated by ellipsis. We ask that you be considerate of the libel laws and the use of appropriate language. Otherwise, we put no restrictions on content. We will try to acknowledge all letters by mail, but unlike the days when we were young and foolish, your editor can no longer engage in a lengthy and protracted correspondence with anyone. If we have a response, you'll see it here.

NAIVE?

Dear Gene:

As a scientist who began work on classified advanced research and development programs in 1956 and became interested in flying saucers in 1958, I find your editorial "42 Years of Alien Technology" (CAVEAT EMPTOR, Fall, 1989) incredibly naive and unrealistic with regard to the development of technology, the ability to keep secrets, and the rules of evidence.

Our courts hardly consider first hand eyewitness testimony from reliable, responsible people as "anecdotal." More than 100 witnesses have already been interviewed with regard to the Roswell incident. More than 30 of these were first hand. Many handled pieces of the wreckage, had security clearances at the time, and have certainly testified about the very peculiar characteristics of the recovered wreckage, the strange symbols on some of it and the definite cover-up by the government. Even the FBI put out a memo clearly establishing that something very strange indeed had happened and was being covered up. The results of this investigation hardly belong in the same story, except by contrast, with the stories of psychics receiving messages and George Adamski.

Any study of the development of technology shows that progress comes from doing things differently in an unpredictable fashion. The future is not just an extrapolation of the past. Since aliens are coming here and we are not yet venturing forth into our local galactic neighborhood, it is safe to say they are more advanced than we are. Considering there are at least five billion years to play with, they might be anywheres from 1000–1 billion years ahead of us. The notion that we could understand, no less duplicate, a complex flying vehicle is frankly absurd.

Columbus could not have duplicated an intact nuclear submarine, no less have any understanding of the many different systems on board. An airborne or space-borne vehicle is more than skin and structure. There are control and instrumentation systems, techniques for navigation and communications methods for dealing with lift, drag, heating, rendezvous, etc.

Many very classified labs are operated by major industrial firms. The labs include Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Hanford Works, Sandia (operated by Bell Labs, by the way). We have no way of knowing how much of our unenlightened nibbling around the edges of alien technology has given us in the way of incremental benefits. For example, the development of greatly improved samarium-cobalt magnets took place at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base...possibly stimulated by examination of unknown samples of material. Our analytical capabilities have improved greatly, but deal in areas about which we have knowledge and do not cover areas about which we may be totally ignorant. Think back to things nuclear or lasers or solid state devices. We couldn't have coped with them at all several decades ago. Even understanding how something works, such as an A bomb, doesn't provide the materials and devices needed to make it work. The hard part about the development of the A bomb was making the separated isotopes. Giving the plans of a hydrogen bomb and a space shuttle to Archimedes would not have allowed him to duplicate either, though probably would have stimulated a great deal of research and new learning.

It may well be that we have learned a great deal from crashed craft which we have put into practice, for example the fact that the Apollo Command modules were round, blunt bodies rather than highly streamlined pointynosed, thin winged vehicles; that we switched from "soft" superconductors to "hard" superconductors: the very discovery of the laser etc., are a direct result of input from study of crashed saucers. The notion that having a piece of advanced technology allows us to duplicate it is simply NOT true. Even a cheap digital watch of today could not have been duplicated by the smartest men on the planet even 50 years, no less 1000 years ago. They could not have determined the composition of the chip inside either. On the other hand, it may be that the exponential growth of government-sponsored research may well have been stimulated by the certain knowledge that certain goals were indeed achievable rather than impossible. One of the things that made the development of the Soviet A bomb easier was certain knowledge (fortunately NOT in Hitler's hands) that the goal could be achieved...as manifested at Hiroshima, Nagasaki, etc. Often, if one isn't sure of success, other programs will take the money away in their pursuit of short-term goals. Hitler, for example, focused on rockets rather than atomic bombs... perhaps very fortunately for us all....

Stanton T. Friedman Fredericton, B.C., Canada

Stan, you sure know how to jump between both sides of an argument. On the one hand, you tell us that we couldn't possibly understand the workings of a highly advanced technology, but on the other hand, perhaps some of our new developments did indeed come from an examination of a crashed flying saucer.

That's having your cake and eating it too, isn't it?

It simply does not follow that new achievements in science must be predicated on an awareness of the possible existence of beings from another planet. Don't you think that we Earthlings deserve

the credit for anything? Yes, there have been great leaps forward in scientific knowledge, but lacking final evidence, there is little reason to believe that the knowledge must have been inspired by an extraterrestrial source.

You may know "aliens are coming here," but I don't share your "knowledge." We don't have the hardware at hand in the way of a real crashed saucer or some ET's, despite all the disc rumors. If you feel I lack the requisite "faith," you may be right, but science doesn't rest on faith alone.

In the first issue of this magazine in 1971, I said that nobody could prove anything definite about UFOs. The experiences of the intervening years have given me little reason to change that view. The extraterrestrial theory may be correct, of course. Assuming such aliens were friendly (John Lear and Bill Cooper to the contrary), it would be a truly romantic ideal of the enigma. But the hope has not as yet been confirmed. That's why we call it the "UFO mystery" and not the "UFO fact."

Another point, not really related to your letter: In your recent appearance on the NBC Unsolved Mysteries TV program, you seemed awfully certain that the MJ-12 documents were genuine (unless, of course, your comments were taken out of context). I was under the impression that the reason you received \$16,000 from the Fund for UFO Research was to make that determination. Since you haven't made a final report that anyone is aware of, I wonder how you can be so sure of yourself. I should think the admission of your colleague, William Moore, that he was an unpaid government agent and involved in UFO disinformation, would raise some serious questions as to what is really going on.

As for rules of evidence: If you have attended trials as I did—when I worked as a broadcast journalist—you would realize that there is quite a disparity in one's memories of "routine" events that may have occurred just weeks earlier. Most trial testimony in major cases is carefully rehearsed, as lawyers don't like to be surprised on the stand. The more complex a trial, the more involved the rehearsal.

I'm sure you're familiar with the old test at law school, where a crime is staged before the students, without warning. The teacher asks the students what happened. You'd be amazed how the stories differ.

With Roswell, we are talking about memories more than 40 years removed from the original event. At the risk of repeating what I told you in our Summer, 1989 issue, the Frank Scully story was widespread in the southwest in those days. How that story might have colored memories of the Roswell case is difficult to know.—GS

STANTON FRIEDMAN, ED WALTERS, PLEASE COPY

Dear Gene Steinberg,

...I agree with Jim Moseley regarding Bill Moore's MUFON talk, Having read the transcript, I wonder why Moore is in Ufology at all. He would be far better off (and better paid too) doing real work as a counter-intelligence agent than living in his fantasy world as described in his speech.

You may like to know of some discoveries about the Canadian Ufologist Wilbert B. Smith, whose TOP SECRET memo of 1950 is cited as supporting evidence of MJ-12 by certain MJ-12 proponents. It was Smith, of course, who named Dr. Vannevar Bush as head of a secret U.S. project at the time. It turns out that Smith had no top secret clearance at all. I have heard from Dr. Omond Solandt, a former chief of the Canadian Defense Research Board, who knew both Smith and Bush well, and who is mentioned by Smith in his famous memo. Solandt writes: "Incidentally, most, if not all, of Smith's work was never really classified top secret or anything else. He never had any institutional base which gave me authority to classify a document. He just put TOP SE-CRET on his personal papers." Solandt further says that Smith was obsessed with the idea that the "establishment" was suppressing the truth about UFOs (shades of Keyhoe!).

Solandt also casts doubt on W.B. Smith's Project Magnet, saying that Smith's theory was worthless. He also says that as head of the DRB he would have been much more likely to have known of any such secret UFO project than Smith; Solandt says he and Bush did talk about UFOs, and Bush was interested in the subject (as were many others), but that is as far as it went.

How Smith got his story about Bush is still obscure, although I do have one idea.

Wilbert Smith was in fact an early contactee, although Stanton Friedman avoids all mention of this. He was conversing with extraterrestrials back in 1953, referring to them as the "people from elsewhere." Anyone reading some of his dotty pieces in *Flying Saucer Review* during 1958–61 can soon decide how much credibility Smith had as a serious Ufologist.

It was Smith's November 1950 allegedly "top secret" memo that laid the foundation stone for the whole MJ-12 forgery 35 years later. It was from this memo alone that the forger got the idea to put Vannevar Bush as leader of MJ-12. The other names followed from extensive archival documentary research.

Friedman says he wants to be the first to prove MJ-12 is genuine (if it is), or alternatively the first to prove it a hoax (if it is). I firmly predict he will achieve neither of these objectives.

Concerning Gulf Breeze: if 138 other witnesses have seen the same UFO as Ed Walters, then presumably some of them have taken similar photos to Ed. I have a few questions: Are any one of these witnesses named? Have they in fact taken similar photos to Ed, or are these just vague blobs of light? Have we got dates, times and investigator's reports on these other sightings and photos? Final question: who is "Believer Bill" (the man who allegedly took very similar photos to Ed right at the start)? Was his identity ever discovered?

Christopher D. Allan Stoke-on-Trent, England

MOORE LETTERS

Dear Gene:

Just read Moseley's piece "I Go to See the MUFON Symposium" in your latest EMPTOR, and thought I'd offer a few corrections to set the record straight.

First of all, it's not "Richard" Hastings (pg. 26, col. 2, paragraph 4), it's "Robert" Hastings; who, by the way, turns out to be a close associate of Todd Zechel. Funny Jim Moseley didn't know this, since Zechel once lived with Moseley-that is, up until Zechel left Moseley with a four-figure phone bill and split. Hastings is something of a bizarre character in his own right. After his "Open Letter" appeared, I tried on numerous occasions over the period of about a week to contact him by phone, but he steadfastly refused to return my calls. Subsequently, I went to his apartment in Albuquerque and tried to visit

with him in person, but he refused to open his door even though he was most certainly at home (I observed him on his balcony watching me as I went out to my car). Several days later, I arrived home to find a letter from his attorney waiting for me in which it was alleged that I was "harassing" his client, and that if I didn't cease and desist, charges would be filed against me! To this day, I have never met, spoken directly to, or corresponded with this man.

If Stanton Friedman was "visibly stunned" by my presentation (pg. 26, col. 2, paragraph 8), it certainly couldn't have been due to the content, since Stan had received and read an advance copy of the text two days earlier. Indeed, Stan had phoned me on Thursday evening (I spoke on Saturday evening) and offered only two observations: first, it was a "bit too long"; and second, it lacked specificity in some places. I took both comments into account and made several modifications the next day. More likely is that Stanton was "visibly stunned" by the outrageous behavior of a few people in the audience whose well-staked-out positions were left in a shambles by what I had to say.

Most of Paul Bennewitz' photos were not of "desert" (pg. 26, col. 2, next-tolast paragraph), they were of wooded mountain tops and canyons in the high country of New Mexico's rugged northwestern corner.

To the best of my knowledge, Bennewitz never claimed that the radio signals he was intercepting came "from another planet" (pg. 27, col. 1, paragraph 1). Furthermore, they did not sound like "plain old static."

The statement that "Whatever Bennewitz was up to. Moore told the government all about it" is somewhat misleading. First of all, it was the "government" who came to me, not viceversa; and secondly, my role was essentially limited to supplying them with information concerning Paul's thinking, activities and interrelationships with others. In addition, it would be more correct to say that I worked with rather than "for" a government agency. That agency, as is made perfectly clear in my Las Vegas paper in spite of what Moseley says (see text as printed in Focus, IV, 4-5-6 [30 Jun. '89], pg. 5, last paragraph) was AFOSI, and my contact man was Richard Doty.

Readers who have further questions

are encouraged to write to me directly rather than to rely on the UFO rumor mill or strictly opportunistic publications such as Beckley's MJ-12 and the Riddle of Hangar 18 for their information.

William L. Moore 4219 West Olive, #247 Burbank, CA 91505

So what did poor Tim Beckley do to deserve the "opportunistic" appellation? He's just trying to make a living, that's all. Besides, we have it on good authority that you first learned about the Roswell case years ago when you bought a book from Beckley's mail order house.—GS

MECHANICAL FLYING MACHINES?

Dear Gene,

Thank you for the "sweet voice of reason" in the resurrected CE. However, your editorial in #19, "42 Years of Alien Technology," makes it clear that, like most UFO researchers, you should expect all ETs to arrive here in mechanical flying machines. This is certainly not universally true, and I suspect the real reason we have seen no obvious advantages from the filtering down of alien technology is because it depends on principles that science doesn't even know exist. The Navy successfully teleported the Eldridge from Philadelphia in 1943, condemning its crew to horrible deaths because the equipment was not designed to accommodate the subtle energies of the human spirit, even though the bodies mostly survived intact.

Billy Meier was repeatedly told by his Pleiadean contacts that they couldn't teleport him aboard their ships unless he had a "clear mind," a state that they were in a better position to determine than he was. In the end, they just teleported him whenever the circumstances were favorable, regardless of when or where he might be at the time. To do otherwise would have been to end his life instantly.

It makes sense that ET contacts are urging us to put our own planet in order before they will accept us in space. For one thing, they don't want another marauding species out there, and until we can demonstrate harmony at home we will never learn to withstand the biofeedback necessary to pilot a beamship. On the other hand, who is to

say what benevolent inventions may have been inspired by their more subtle intervention?

Regarding Geneva Hagen's review of Brad Steiger's book *The Fellowship*, Meier's Swiss group makes a point of sending a disclaimer to most inquirers, stating that Semjase never had any contacts except with Meier himself. It was the claims by Fred Bell and others to the contrary that were supposedly partly responsible for the closing of the Pleiadeans' bases in the U.S. and elsewhere. Whether you believe any of this or not is of course what keeps UFO magazines in circulation!

By the way, although Michael Pinder may have been inspired by a UFO to compose "The Promise," the track in which he tries valiantly to duplicate the sound of a beamship with synthesizers is "Procession," the first track on Every Good Boy Deserves Favor. Incidentally, for those of you with a PBS station rerunning The Invaders, the guy in charge of spaceship sound effects deserves a gold medal for his work, and the Pleiadeans wouldn't even arrive for another 10 years!

John Shimwell Mountain View, CA

No, I don't really expect ET to arrive here in a mechanical spaceship anytime soon, but not for the reasons you state. I don't think there's conclusive evidence as to the cause of UFOs. There are some other possibilities, which I have alluded to in my editorials.

I think a theory should be tested continually until we have the final link in the chain. Whether the evidence depends on faith or on the receipt of the appropriate hardware, I don't know. There certainly seems to be a strong human element in the UFO mystery. It may be that the percipient is at least partly responsible for what is being seen.

About to the Philadelphia Experiment, that is a controversial matter in itself, and I won't go into it here. For another point of view, read my interview with Peter Kor in this issue.—GS

OVER THE EDGE

Dear Gene,

I like your publication. Please find my subscription enclosed.

You seem to be striving to go out on

the edge. That's good, but go further. Don't be afraid to go into speculative areas that seem completely off the wall.

Of course you don't want to ever lose sight of the objective of finding a toe-hold on the tracks of truth. One of the questions you might want to ask is: What is the difference in science fiction fans and Ufologists? It seems to me these are different folks with clearly defined characteristics and drifts. You would think this would be the same thrusts; one ball of wax so to speak. If you answer the question, you will have some more insight into CAVEAT EMPTOR'S direction.

Bob Mosley Shalimar, FL

So there is no confusion, let me first assure the readers that Bob Moseley is not in any way related to James Moseley (notice the spelling difference).

To answer the questions: If the muse moves us "off the wall," so be it. We do get far afield sometimes, witness Geneva Hagen's regular columns, for example.

As to the differences between science fiction fans and UFO fans. In some cases —myself for example—there is no difference. Some of our staff members read and write science fiction also. I was into that before I became active in the UFO field. Those whose viewpoints tend toward the "psychic," however, are less inclined to be involved in science fiction.

There are also those in the science fiction community who will have nothing whatever to do with UFO buffs, perhaps for justifiable reasons. Many science fiction writers, for example, are deeply immersed in science—it is the grounding for all of their speculative fiction—and they seriously question those who they feel are less than vigorous in their own research.—GS

ACADEMIC FLATHEADS

Dear Gene:

The latest CAVEAT EMPTOR received and read with considerable interest.... Your lengthy editorial covers the various aspects of the saucer phenomenon, as seen by those who accepted without question the government's disinformation program over the years, and this is obvious in the tedious interview with Peter Kor. Just one of his absolute statements suffices: "the complete lack of tangible evidence for all the commo-

tion that was going on. It continues to this day. It is remarkable." For those who refuse to believe, no evidence is possible!

Scully's book of 1950 revealed the government cover-up and I believed it. Steinman read the book for the first time in 1983 and wondered if it was true. Leading UFO researchers assured him that the story of the Aztec crash was a hoax, but not a one of them had personally gone to the site of the Aztec crash! Steinman did and found that it was true. Have you gone to Aztec to check on it? I doubt it. But at least you are beginning to doubt the government's disinformation program, which has succeeded beyond the propagandists' wildest expectations. Now the American public is so confused by all the conflicting stories that they don't want to believe anything. And I don't blame them.

Academic flatheads like Peter Kor, John Keel, Jacques Vallee and others will not be abducted and given brutal physical examinations. They serve the cover-up program too well just as they are with their ignorant beliefs. The only real experts in flying saucer research are the ones who have been contacted and/or abducted....

It was William Cooper's statement that gave me the reason for the government's consuming interest in abductees, enough to have them x-rayed for possible implants—possible agents provocateurs for a planned invasion of the earth. Cooper discovered this in triple A secret material while he was a Naval intelligence agent on the staff of CINCPAC while at Pearl Harbor. If considered necessary for "national security," MJ-12 will fake a nuclear emergency and declare martial law and all contactees and abductees will be rounded up and put in concentration camps -and probably all flying saucer researchers as well. Somehow, New Zealand seems comfortably remote from such a possibility.

Your even-handed treatment of Whitley Strieber is commendable. At least you didn't ridicule him or try to rationalize away his 4-D experiences, about which he is still confused himself, though he tried to deny it when I talked to him at the Paranormal conference at Colorado State in June. His criticism of Budd Hopkins suggests implant control to me, and it is rather surprising that he asks us to love his captors and ignore

the sinister implications of their invasion of the planet....

Riley Crabb Orewa, Hibiscus Coast New Zealand

I made my comments about the Scully book in our Summer issue. Whatever his shortcomings, I think William Moore did an excellent job in disproving Scully's basic premise. As to Steinman—my comments to Stan Friedman above apply here too. There is no telling how accurate memories of the alleged crash are so many years later. I think a personal visit to Aztec at this point would be fruitless, unless there was evidence of physical specimens at hand.

When you read Peter Kor's comments in this issue, I think you'll realize he has a good handle on the extent of possible government disinformation in the flying saucer field. A pro-saucer conspiracy is something that should be explored as extensively as the anti-saucer conspiracy has been.—GS

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD IT WOULD BE

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Dear Editor:

Reference your piece "Methinks He Spoke Too Soon," CAVEAT EMPTOR, Fall 1989.

Imagine what a wonderful world it would be for Ufologists if the reality or unreality of UFO reports were determined by newsclips. Of course there will always be strange lights in the skies seen by people. But are all those newsclip reports of good, solid unknowns, or are they explainable upon investigation?

You don't seem to leave room for that in your commentary.

Also, I did not pronounce the phenomenon "dead and buried." If I thought that I would resign CAUS.

Gulf Breeze is in great dispute at present. You, yourselves, admitted the Long Island reports you quote may have been IFOs. Therefore, all the "new material" aerial sightings you quote don't necessarily constitute the true UFO phenomenon, i.e. those reports which remain baffling and unexplained after investigation.

Barry Greenwood
CAUS
Stoneham, MA

Actually, I thought your comments in Just Cause deserved a good-natured ribbing. You seem so certain the phenomenon has departed, even if only temporarily.

The purpose of the article—which wasn't really a commentary, except perhaps
for the introduction and ending—was to
show that sightings continue. As usual,
fully 90% of these reports probably have
purely natural explanations—the rest form
the core of the UFO enigma as it has stood
through the years. I don't know how suspect the additional Gulf Breeze cases are,
and only some of the Long Island reports
may be due to possible drug traffickers, as
I explained. The Fyffe, Alabama sightings—which you don't mention in your
letter—have not as yet, to my knowledge
anyway, been solved.—GS

THE BOOK OF...

Dear Mr. Steinberg:

First, congratulations on CAVEAT EMPTOR and my best wishes for your continued success. I know just how difficult it is to get out a magazine.

My main comments are about Ms. Geneva Hagen. She seems to be an excellent student of metaphysics and occultism and is certainly a valuable addition to your magazine. However, I would like to correct her on one point and make an addition to another. In her article "Magic in Our Time" (CAVEAT EMPTOR, Fall, 1989) she states that you will find in *Genesis* the phrase, "In the beginning was the Word." Although I loved the article, I think a person looking through the Bible will be far more likely to find it in the *Book of St. John* and not in *Genesis*.

In her review of *The Fellowship* in the same issue she points out that the Cabala's Tree of Life assigns force to male and form to female, contradicting what the "alien" Semjase told some contactees. It should be pointed out that in eastern traditions, especially that of Hinduism and Tantrism, the idea of the female representing force and the male representing form is the norm. There is an expression that says that the male god Shiva is a corpse without the goddess, Shakti. Today, the cabala is far less known than eastern traditions, and if the contactees are faking it (heaven forbid!), they are more likely to have taken information from eastern sources than from the cabala.

Further, there is a deeper tradition of the cabala that sees the *Shekhinah* (also known as the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit, etc.) as being female. Thus, the male God creates the form, but requires the *Shekhinah* to bring Spirit or energy to the creation.

Donald Michael Kraig Editor, *Fate* Magazine St. Paul, MN

Thanks, Don, for the letter. Just want to apologize for calling you "Dan" in my article about your selection as editor of Fate in issue #18. I guess my tired eyes just misread my notes of the interview.—GS

UFOS AS ART?

Dear Gene:

CAVEAT EMPTOR is looking great. There wasn't an article I didn't like in the Fall issue. I don't know what Peter Kor will have to say in the next issue, but I bet it will make sense—very good sense. Congratulations on your superb efforts and your fine product.

We will be coming out with a whole UFO book in a few weeks [letter received in September] (and that will be just the first volume). Does Peter Kor have any ideas about how much like art the UFO phenomenon is?

Dennis Stillings Director, Archaeus Project St. Paul, MN

WRONG ORBIT

Dear Ms. Hagen:

Your review of my first two books in the Summer 1989 issue was brought to my attention; I appreciate your interest in my writings.

When you get around to reviewing Book III, would you please correct one figure? The orbit of Nibiru is 3,600 Earth-years, not 26,000.

Book IV in my series of *The Earth Chronicles* is due in December/January. Titled *The Lost Realms*, it will embrace into the tale of events on Earth the ancient civilizations of the Americas.

. . .

Zecaria Sitchin New York, NY

AD HOMINEM

Dear CAVEAT EMPTOR readers:

Let the Buyer Beware of Skeptics who wear writer's clothing. I have spoken to Gene about Michael Dennett's Fall '89 CAVEAT EMPTOR article on Sasquatch hunters, and my view of the whole article was that it is improper for a UFO magazine to permit a CSICOPPER to write anything about conflicts between Bigfoot hunters, and the reason for this is that a person like Dennett cannot know the true ins and outs of these conflicts, and he has a vested interest in making Bigfoot hunters look foolish and roiled in conflict, for by so doing, and indulging in pure ad hominem remarks, he manages to diminish the impact of the contributions towards solving the Bigfoot mystery that these individuals have provided. The reader and the public gets the view that this is a bunch of silly children, infighting, and not producing much of any solid evidence because they are so busy cutting each other's throats. CSICOP, by contrast, would never allow me, or Jim Moseley, or Stanton Friedman or anyone else in Ufology to blather forth on its pages (in the Skeptical Inquirer) about the foibles of individual skeptics. Quite properly, they keep a united front, and why are not we?

...Raised by Dennett are a number of points that are false, inaccurate or distorted. Mainly Dennett passes off as "facts" the opinions of me that are held by [René] Dahinden, who represents a less-than-3%-position in terms of standing within the entire "Bigfoot field." Dennett has been unduly impressed by Dahinden's gradual growth of skepticism about Bigfoot, as a physical Bigfoot has failed to be killed in the last thirty-one years (or the last 2,000 for that matter). Few will deny that Dahinden has gone from favor to disfavor, in cycles, with dozens and dozens of Bigfoot researchers, as he attempts to exert a leadership that simply is not recognized over new investigators, as well as his contemporaries. To avoid libel, I cannot here go into what is said about him in detail, but the word "contentious" can safely apply....The nice appellation aranted me by Dennett that is supposed to be used on me by "Bigfoot correspondents" is mainly used by Dahinden in letters to me, and among his tiny coterie of die-hard supporters, who change from week to

week, as Dahinden changes his support of them.

...Dennett tells us that I have alienated almost everyone inside the BF community, and I will admit that I have upset about 10% of this group, often by exposing false credentials, and over-bloated fake "memberships" of various "Information Centers," clubs, groups and the like, as well as fake degrees and false education.

...I went to the ISC Convention in Pullman, WA in June, and found Mr. Twigger ["Mark Francis"] had been active: Using five "death threat" letters that he claimed were from me to him (which I never saw in my life), he managed to talk a very gullible female novice district attorney deputy (he is a telephone solicitor with a silver tongue) into issuing arrest warrants on me to prevent me from killing him. This would have been difficult, if it had been true (it was not true), since I had never met the man in my life, nor did I ever see a photo of him. The result was that by a combination of arrest, bail and restraining order, I was denied my basic Constitutional Rights of Free Speech and Freedom of Assembly. Mr. Twigger did not seem to grasp the basic concept of all conventions (he is just 23): that one leaves personal animosities at the doorway, and all are allowed to speak freely.

...Of note is that a Certified Forensic Documents Examiner (Lynne Variano, Los Angeles) has supplied the court with an excellent analysis that states that 1) Beckjord did not sign the letters, 2) Twigger's typewriter font is the same as typed the letters, and that 3) it is probable that Twigger's hand is the same as the hand of the false signatures of mine, which were not even spelled right. The prosecutor has made no analysis. (They are welcome to use ours)....

Jon Erik Beckjord Malibu, CA

Space doesn't permit us to publish Beckjord's entire letter, of which this is only a part. In addition, we have had at least two lengthy phone conversations with him on the same topic. His letter goes on to make a number of less-than-favorable comments about every Bigfoot researcher named in Dennett's article—comments that seem to bear out the kind of contention that exists in that field.

I don't want to get involved in these personal attacks, and I don't think our

readers do either. I will say this, though: Where do we draw the line on excluding writers? If we decide not to accept an article from a CSICOP member, whom do we cut off next?

We will not exclude writers on the basis of their membership in a certain organization (as long as it doesn't have terrorist leanings, something I've never heard about CSICOP), political party, or as a result of their religious affiliation. The article was not intended to represent Dennett's personal beliefs about the reality of Bigfoot. It was merely an overview of the people involved in such research. And the kind of controversy brought forth has its match in the UFO field, I can assure you.—GS

A QUESTION OF GEOGRAPHY

Dear Editor:

While Michael R. Dennett's survey of the Bigfoot field ("The People Who Hunt Sasquatch" CAVEAT EMPTOR #19) was interesting on the surface, his decision to review only West Coast investigators resulted in an article that hardly provided readers with the information its title implied.

Despite the popular myth that the Bigfoot world revolves around the Pacific Coast, my years of research have revealed that Bigfoot has actually been reported far more often east of the Mississippi River than in the west, with the heaviest concentrations in Pennsylvania and Florida. Researcher/Investigators are also extremely active in the east, a fact that Dennett completely ignores. In my home state of Maryland alone I have recorded over 300 Bigfoot sightings and have interviewed some four dozen eyewitnesses, all the while maintaining contact with over 40 eastern correspondents similarly involved in this branch of unexplained phenomena.

To gain proper perspective on the dimensions of, and systems within, Bigfoot research, I would suggest that in the future Mr. Dennett contact all the players in the Bigfoot drama regardless of geographic location. Presenting only a small part of a large and complicated picture does little to educate an often misinformed public.

Mark Opsasnick Director, SRI Greenbelt, MD

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The Caveat Emptor Interview: Peter Kor

(Part II)

By Gene Steinberg

Who would have dreamed in the forties and fifties that the government would be experimenting on the people it was governing?

In the last issue of CAVEAT EMPTOR, we introduced Peter Kor, a veteran UFO researcher whose background dates back to the middle 1940s.

Kor began with pretty much a conventional outlook on the phenomenon—that it was real and likely extraterrestrial. In the course of intense personal investigation that spanned many years, he began to question his own beliefs, and soon realized that his views on the enigma were becoming radically different from those of other investigators.

In the interview, Kor said he simply wanted to find out what was going on. Many researchers, he explains, have hidden motivations, such as looking for notoriety or trying to find substitute careers for themselves. These and other motivations make it difficult for them to see what the phenomenon is all about.

In the concluding portion of the interview, Korexamines the prospect of active government interest and possible intervention that goes far beyond merely hiding facts about possible visitors from another planet.

In his final comments in Part I, Kor questioned the strange characters who have come forth to provide "revelations" about crashed flying saucers in the controversial MJ-12 documents. He said they weren't really coming forward at all, only part way, and was, to put it mildly, less than impressed by it all.

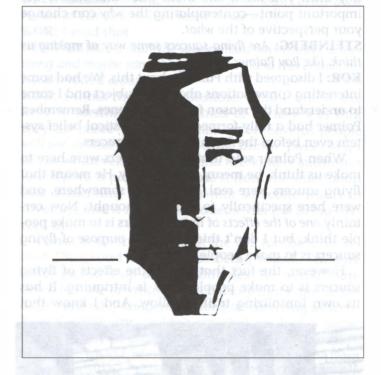
If you do not have Part I, please send \$4.00 for issue #19 to: Back Issue Department, CAVEAT EMPTOR, P.O. Box 4533, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4533.

STEINBERG: I think if you've read my editorials, you know how seriously I take the MJ-12 documents.

KOP. Vos

STEINBERG: That's because it just happens over and over again

KOR: This is an interesting part of saucer lore and his-



tory and it adds to an understanding of the situation, but in a way that has nothing directly to do with the events that these documents purport to deal with.

STEINBERG: Let's look at this now: Do you feel that the UFO movement is anything more than a social phenomenon of some kind, that we're dealing with people interested in the subject, chasing all these things—and certainly they have their various motivations—but beyond that, is there anything else to check, except why are people interested in it?

KOR: There are genuine mysteries to be probed and discoveries to be made about flying saucers—which is why I don't qualify as a typical "skeptic." The typical skeptic—while usually accurate in his criticism of saucer reports and believers—is too wedded to established authority and wisdom to get beyond the obvious. The situation is complicated by the fact that the genuine mysteries and discoveries involved are not in the directions that everyone (skeptics and believers alike) is looking, nor can they be grasped in the terms everyone is using. One way to get beyond these "misdirections" is to start asking new questions. Questions

such as what are flying saucers and where are they from are obsolete. The framework of explanation implied by those questions has been shown to be false beyond a reasonable doubt. One question people ought to be asking now is why are the saucers (i.e., what functions do "they" serve)? That opens a whole new can of worms; a very interesting can of worms, I might add.

STEINBERG: Does the why tell us the what?

KOR: Typically, someone who posits the *why* already knows the *what*. And I don't think you can solve the *why* until you know the *what*. But—and this is the important point—contemplating the *why* can change your perspective of the *what*.

STEINBERG: Are flying saucers some way of making us think, like Ray Palmer said?

KOR: I disagreed with Palmer about this. We had some interesting conversations about the subject and I came to understand the reason for our difference. Remember, Palmer had a fully-formed, almost mystical belief system even before the "coming" of the saucers.

When Palmer said that flying saucers were here to make us think, he meant that literally. He meant that flying saucers were real, came from somewhere, and were here specifically to provoke thought. Now certainly one of the effects of flying saucers is to make people think, but I don't think that the purpose of flying saucers is to make people think.

However, the fact that one of the effects of flying saucers is to make people think is intriguing. It has its own tantalizing trail to follow. And I know that



"When Palmer said that flying saucers were here to make us think, he meant that literally."

most researchers in the field have not thought about the matter at this level of conception. But, nevertheless, you can look at the flying saucer saga as a history of the development of ideas, with the phenomenon as an "index" to when particular events happened and what ideas were generated at particular times. When you look at that history of ideas, you see something very interesting and profound, over and above whether or not flying saucers represent an alien intelligence.

STEINBERG: Are you speaking in the sense of the 1897 airships, for example, showing us heavier-than-air craft that came a few years later, or the beginning of our space program?

KOR: Well, there is that aspect: that the thinking that goes on about certain things and the experiences that seem to embody that thinking sometimes presage what actually happens later. But I'm thinking of a different dimension too. I'm thinking of the interesting concepts and issues that are generated by studying the saucers.

Each new round of happenings "energizes" people to investigate the "saucers," think about them, and come up with all kinds of conceptions to explain them, sometimes getting very far afield: into philosophy, politics, physics, and religion. This is a fascinating process that relates to larger issues, of which the subject of flying saucers is really a subset.

STEINBERG: Maybe we should start moving away from flying saucers, because CAVEAT EMPTOR magazine does get far afield sometimes, as you no doubt recall.

KOR: Yes.

STEINBERG: Flying saucers are a subset of what? And maybe we should start moving away and see in what other directions it takes us.

KOR: Well, this is something I won't go into in too much detail. And I want to preface my comments by saying that I am not implying that I have had a supernatural experience of some sort. No one visited me from another planet or dimension and told me anything in my sleep, or took me somewhere and examined me, or implanted something in my subconscious.

STEINBERG: You haven't been abducted in the night.

KOR: No. I've abducted a few people myself [laughs], but I haven't been abducted. All kidding aside, as the latest unfoldment or stage of the saucer "mystery," the so-called abduction cases are an important and predictable development. But they cannot be taken at face value. To be understood, they must be put in their proper context.

Likewise, the entire saucer saga is a dead end in the terms in which it is presented. So when I say that flying saucers are a subset of larger issues, I mean that they are not a self-contained puzzle to be solved. They are just one piece of a larger, more complicated puzzle. Let me explain it this way. Once you really understand a

subject or field, you can make connections that you couldn't make before and, to a degree, you can make predictions. To the extent that the predictions hold up, you don't need to adjust your understanding. When a prediction doesn't hold up, you have to go back and refine, or reconsider.

So each stage in the saucer inquiry is a qualifier. Every advance you make in ability and comprehension increases your qualifications as an inquirer and opens up avenues you didn't see before. So if you grasp what flying saucers are all about, you close one door, so to speak, but open other doors. And sometimes the doors that you thought were unrelated really open up onto the same "playing field." There are issues and problems that flying saucers are connected to.

STEINBERG: Can you open a few doors for us?

KOR: Well, let me "walk through" one that has already been opened: the issue of government involvement in saucer "research." That involvement raises questions that go far beyond flying saucers. Questions such as: What is the nature of government? What is the proper relationship between government and "the people"? How might government interests differ from the interests of the people it is supposedly serving, and what might it do to further those interests?

STEINBERG: Are you thinking in terms of general disinformation?

KOR: That's one facet of it. Experimentation is another. For example, beginning in the middle fifties, the CIA had programs to test LSD on people who did not know that they were being tested. Indeed, the evidence is very strong that the *drug culture* of the 1960s and beyond was a product of government-sponsored programs.

Who would have dreamed in the forties and fifties that the government would be experimenting on the people it was governing? And how might such experiments have been involved in creating, encouraging,

and/or shaping the saucer "mystery"?

As for disinformation, anyone who followed my writings in *Kor's Kosmos* must now deal with the possibility that the government may have pulled a kung fu move on researchers in regard to flying saucers. Whereas, at one time, everyone was assuming that the government was covering up a secret about flying saucers, I am convinced that, for at least part of the time, the government was actually trying to make people believe that there was a secret to cover up.

STEINBERG: For what purpose?

KOR: I will discuss one; there are others that I won't go into. There were military experiments going on and I think that the government found it convenient to push the ET explanation to get people thinking that what they were seeing was not something the government was producing. And I think that there

are some famous incidents that belong in this category. For example, if the government is testing a new plane or tracking an experimental balloon with secret high-tech equipment on board, and something goes wrong with it and there's a crash; or somebody spots something that is not supposed to be seen; or radar picks up an object at 80,000 feet at a time when no known plane can fly that high—attention can be drawn away from what is really going on by fostering the idea that aliens from space may be involved.

STEINBERG: I mentioned that half-seriously in my book review of The Roswell Incident {Issue #17}...

KOR: I read that.

STEINBERG: ...that the government was testing something and maybe something happened and this entire scenario revolved around that.

KOR: I think that's very possible. I think one of the keys to identifying these kinds of incidents is that they are more "tangible" than most. Several people will see or find basically the same things, pieces of tin foil or whatever. When you find this kind of substance to a report, it pays to look into it from the standpoint that something is going on that someone wants to cover up, and it may not be aliens that are being covered up.

Consider all the years that the U-2 (or the more recent "Blackbird") plane was being tested. I'm sure radar picked it up at high altitudes. We weren't supposed to have anything that could fly that high. So the flights probably triggered reports about flying saucers. Now the military couldn't say that we had a plane that could fly at 80,000 feet. And they may not have actually leaked "information" concerning aliens from outer space. They may just have encouraged speculation in that regard. It's an interesting and effective diversion. You get people thinking about flying saucers from other planets to direct their attention away from our own technology. Such diversions may have been used in the early stages of the space program, too, when we were sending monkeys into the fringes of space in balloons and, later, liquid-fueled rockets. There are reasons to believe that stories of "little men" in crashed saucers may have originated in those flights.

Diversionary tactics may also have been involved in the Philadelphia Experiment story. If you remember, M.K. Jessup wrote about ships that "disappeared." That sounds remarkably like experiments that were going on at that time to make ships invisible to radar (like the Stealth airplane), not invisible to the eye. Information about those experiments may have gotten into the hands of people who were interested in flying saucers and was misinterpreted. Once the story got out, it was in the government's interest, or at least certain people's interest in the government, to encourage the mistaken speculation.

STEINBERG: What about the oft-repeated feeling that there are moles in the UFO field, planted there by the government to keep things going for various reasons?

KOR: I can't say that I know this is true. But I think it's very likely; if not now, then in the past. NICAP [National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena] was riddled with people who had important connections to the military and the CIA. In retrospect, I am amazed that some of us didn't see the possibilities earlier. Here you had Major Donald Keyhoe, a military man, getting information from people who he claimed were not supposed to be giving it to him. And on the board of directors of the organization he went on to head were people who had existing or previous ties to the military and the intelligence agencies.

Now this may not have been a program of overt disinformation. My guess is that there was at least a keeping track of what was going on in the saucer field. Disinformation was probably involved to the extent that, when prudent, certain information was leaked and certain lines of thought were popularized. Remember, Keyhoe was claiming that a group of recalcitrant people within the government believed that the "truth" about flying saucers being from another planet ought to be made public. These people were supposedly working against the powers-thatbe in giving Keyhoe information. As with the MJ-12 documents, the questions that need answers about this matter still aren't being asked. To wit: Don't you think the powers-that-be knew what was going on? Don't you think they had a pretty good idea who was leaking the information? And don't you think they would have stopped the leaks if they opposed them?

The fact that information was leaked over such a long time convinces me that Keyhoe was on the other end of a concerted effort to put a "spin" on the saucer situation; a "spin" that served certain people's interests within the government.

STEINBERG: I always say humorously that, if the government really wanted to put a mole in the UFO field, they would not put someone in who was obviously a military figure or a retired Air Force colonel or so forth. They would put in some kind of Bohemian character who was the absolute antithesis of the military, someone who instead of speaking in a military, logical way, comes across in a very earthy way, is rather disorganized in his manner and his dress, maybe drinks a little bit too much, maybe is known to have taken drugs in the past, his various facets of behavior, of course, are totally opposite from the traditional military figure. That's why I sometimes speculate that Jim Moseley is indeed the UFO mole.

KOR: Before addressing your question, I want to comment on Moseley's approach to flying saucers. He is fond of saying that some researchers take the subject too seriously; that they should take a lighter, more humorous approach, like he does. I want to point out



"...when Moseley says that a humorous approach to flying saucers is best, he's implying that it's okay to play games with the subject: to create false leads and otherwise sow confusion in the field."

that being serious is not the same as *not* having a sense of humor. For example, anyone who knows me well knows that my sense of humor is second to none. However, whether or not I approach a subject humorously depends on whether or not humor is appropriate. Play is fun, but I wouldn't play on my mother's grave.

Now when Moseley says that a humorous approach to flying saucers is best, he's implying that it's okay to play games with the subject: to create false leads and otherwise sow confusion in the field. Ha, ha, ha, big joke. I don't think this is funny. It may be funny to him, and that may tell us about his sense of humor. Or it may be in accord with a hidden agenda of his. But anybody who really wants to find out about flying saucers doesn't relish the idea that somebody is putting false leads in his way.

So you should be serious about a matter that's important to you. If it's not important to you, being serious is not necessary. And maybe what Jim is saying in a round-about way is that he doesn't consider saucers to be important, and that's why he's not serious about it.

As far as his kind of person being a mole in the saucer field, I think that makes sense, today. For many years now, people have been quite suspicious of anything having to do with the military. That was not true in the fifties when Keyhoe made his move in NICAP. That was not true when all those people with all their fancy titles and credentials were on the board of

NICAP. Back then, authority was something to pay homage to. Back then, a campaign to put a spin on the saucer situation could have easily been executed by "authorities" of that sort.

Of course, regardless of the "climate" of a particular time, moles would be of whatever type that would be necessary to "penetrate" the particular groups or activities targeted. So you could have had, and still might have, various types of moles for various types of jobs. One interesting line of inquiry in this regard is to identify researchers who have been associated with military or intelligence organizations in connection with their military service or government-financed work. Some "famous" researchers are in this category. Such people would be natural conduits for the dissemination of disinformation, knowingly or otherwise.

Manipulation of the saucer field might involve activities other than those of the classic researcher/mole, too. For example, there were people in the field in the fifties, especially contactees, who were accompanied by mysterious characters. Whenever you were with these contactees, the mysterious characters were hovering about, sticking their noses in, interpreting, and answering questions that were not even addressed to them.

STEINBERG: Are they like the handlers that we got to know of in the political spectrum in the 1988 presidential election, who always hovered around the candidates and told them what to say, what to do and when to breathe?

KOR: I can't say they exercised such tight control, but the description is very apt. I got to know a couple of these mysterious characters. I am convinced beyond a shadow of a doubt that they had agendas radically different from the contactees, themselves. They said they believed the contactees claims and causes. But I know, from my personal experience with them that this was just a pose. I have ideas as to what these people were up to. I won't go into the matter further because I do not want to give away who they are.

The role these people played is just one more facet of the saucer saga that leads in certain interesting directions. The point is that researchers are not going to get anywhere continuing to believe that the government's role has been to cover up the "truth" about aliens. And I don't think you can conclude that the government's role has always been the same role.

One more thing: I don't think you can conclude even that it's government, per se, that is involved. The principals may be people "connected" to certain agencies of the government who may or may not be in tune with the government's policies at the time.

STEINBERG: We're talking about a shadow government or something of that nature—or is this simply a bunch of military or intelligence figures who are doing some kind of power play?

KOR: Let me suggest one possibility. I say it's a possibility because I'm purposely explaining it a little differently than I think it actually is. You have the constituted government with its organization chart, along with its elected and appointed "officials." You have intelligence agencies and other groups that perform certain functions on behalf of the government, factions within the agencies, people who disagree with one another within the factions, and freelancers who work for the various factions. Now, members of a certain faction may think that manipulation of the saucer situation is necessary or desirable for some reason: to put a spin on an issue, provide leverage for an action, misdirect, or just keep track of certain activities. There are many ways you can explain some of the things that have gone on, and some of the things I have been personally involved with. So although I have used the term "government" all this time, I'm really not talking about the government.

But whatever quasi-government manipulation may be going on, the saucer saga is not solely the result of that manipulation. Something is happening that is not under anybody's control. And the way to counter whatever manipulation is going on is to be rigorous in your thought and investigation. The people who are the easiest to control are those who are the most desperate to believe.

STEINBERG: Let us move towards some kind of a summing of what has transpired so far. What is your best advice for the person who has gotten into the UFO field in the last few years, has seen all these controversies about MJ-12, about the abduction scenario and all this? What do you advise them to do if they have a real, serious interest in trying to find out what's going on?

KOR: The first thing researchers should do is to throw off the "movement" mentality that grips most of them. Unless a person thinks his way beyond the self-contained cocoon of ideas that has become "saucer research," he will never be more than a pawn in someone else's game. To begin the process, researchers, believers and skeptics alike, should examine their motives—and I'm convinced that most of them have not done that. They get caught up in the saucer mania and just go along with the "program." They have never made a conscious effort to determine why they are doing what they are doing.

So the question is: What is the real reason that *you* continue to pursue the saucers? To pose as an authority? Gain notoriety? Out of economic necessity? For the social activity? Because of a psychological need for mystery? Or, perhaps, as a means for promoting a political cause or ideology?

If you are chasing the saucers for any other reason than finding out what is going on, number one, you won't find out what is going on and, number two, you will continue to be part of the problem instead of the solution.

The Ego Corner: Black Magic

By Geneva Hagen

Researchers tell us that a person watching TV goes into something similar to a hypnotic trance.

The reasoning function and the motor centers shut down...

et me start by defining my terms. By "Black Magic," I am referring to the practice of manipulating symbols and secret technology so as to cause harm to others, usually for personal gain. Some may object that the word "Black" in this context has racist connotations, but I understand that similar expressions are used in African traditions. The reasoning is that evil tends to be done secretly, under cover of night. I am not using the spelling "Magick" because here I will be speaking more of material consequences than spiritual ones.

As in the old days, language, mathematics and chemistry form the foundations of modern magic, but we have added some refined new techniques that our ancestors only dreamed of: genetic engineering, microwaves, atomic energy, electronics

VOODOO

We might as well begin by talking about that old Hollywood favorite, Voodoo! I am using this popular spelling rather than the alternative, "Voudoun," as the Haitian Voodoo priest Max Beauvoir (featured in *The Serpent and the Rainbow*, by Wade Davis) still spells it the old way.

Voodoo is an amalgamation of various African tribal religions, pieced together by Caribbean slaves in search of revenge against their tormenters. Voodoo is practiced almost universally in Haiti, even among those who profess to be Christians, and also has a large following in Louisiana and among Caribbean immigrants everywhere. Its Jamaican counterpart is called *Obeah*.

Possession and ecstatic dances over hot coals are routine parts of Voodoo ceremonies, as is animal sacrifice (generally of chickens). The animal's death is Geneva Hagen is the co-founder of Caveat Emptor, and is the chief architect of its very unusual approach to the strange and unknown. She is a resident of British Columbia, Canada.



quick and it is eaten afterward. (Animal sacrifice is also practiced among many of the tribal religions of Africa, including a number of sects that consider themselves Christian.) In general, Voodoo provides a way for Haitians to experience direct contact with the unseen forces, and to gain the strength and courage to carry on under conditions of poverty that you and I could hardly imagine. The darker side of Voodoo simply follows from the oppression of the Haitian people, who dare not strike back openly.

The "Voodoo curse," where someone is hexed and proceeds to waste away and die, is well known (and I find it interesting that AIDS spread to North America through Haiti!). This effect could be mainly psychological, or it could be the result of slow poisoning (or slow starvation in an attempt to avoid same!). However, the most bizarre form of Voodoo Black Magic is undoubtedly the art of zombie-making.

First, a poison is mixed with ingredients from certain plants plus the puffer fish. (The puffer is considered a great delicacy in Japan, although even when prepared by specially trained and licensed chefs, it causes several deaths each year.) The poison induces a death-like coma which is so dreaded that in Haiti, it is customary for relatives to slit the throat of corpses before burial, just in case. The unlucky "zombie" is secretly dug up and revived a few days later. The poison usually causes some neurological damage, and a form of brainwashing, accompanied by beatings, finishes the job of destroying the personality and the will. Then the new zombie is taken to provide slave labor at some menial plantation task.

Fortunately for our piece of mind, Wade Davis tells us that zombie-making is a rare occurrence. Naturally

the kind of worker obtained by this method is not a very good one, so the real motivation is usually revenge. The zombie-maker charges a large fee, but in cases where someone has made a lot of enemies, they may decide to pool their meager resources and take up a collection for this purpose. Poisoning has always been the last resort of the poor and the powerless.

POISONING

Shamans and medicine men and women of all cultures have always had a knowledge of herbs and potions, and often they have been unjustly accused whenever unexplained sickness arises. But, let's face it, there do exist people among us who just like to poison things! When I was a child, we had an old lady in our town whose hobby was poisoning pigeons and dogs. That hobby has become so popular in recent years that medicines and food supplements now come with a safety seal.

The most recent furor was over the Chilean grapes, but that case had the earmarks of a hoax, as the amount of poison actually found wasn't even enough to harm a small child. What has received almost no news coverage, however, is that California grapes contain levels of pesticides high enough to make a sensitive personal deathly ill. Wise consumers will boycott this product.

Herbicides and pesticides are basically spin-offs from products developed for biological warfare! In some cases, just a couple of drops on the bare skin is enough to kill a person. Yet, we continue to spray them on our food crops and trust that nothing will happen! Cancer, birth defects and brain damage are just a few of the documented side-effects. The irony of it all, as we poison ourselves, is that the pests adapt quickly and are just as big a problem as they ever were!

Meanwhile, these agricultural chemicals are finding their way into our water supply (where else would they go?) There have been occasions in the past when people undergoing psychotic experiences have earnestly tried to inform me that there was "something in the water." The more I learn, the more I wonder if they may not have been correct about the source of their difficulties!

It's bad enough if such chemicals end up in our water by accident, but surely it's a whole other level of folly to add them to the water on purpose! Yet, that is exactly what happens in the case of one toxic byproduct of aluminum manufacturing, sodium fluoride—which is also marketed as a pesticide! Whether or not it helps prevent cavities doesn't seem particularly relevant, when you consider that it has also been shown to cause birth defects, cancer, osteoporosis, kidney and retinal damage, and even depression and psychosis (it interferes with the production of neurotransmitter substances in the brain). And unlike those Chilean grapes, a tube of fluoridated toothpaste can

kill a small child.

If this substance were not being sold to municipal water suppliers, the aluminum manufacturers would have to spend large sums of money to have it disposed of as toxic waste. Perhaps here we have a clue to the motivation behind the campaign that led to the adoption of fluoridation in many cities.

ADVERTISING

Advertising is probably the worst example of Black Magic that most of us will ever encounter. For one thing, it is the way products like the ones mentioned above continue to be sold! For another thing, it determines the content of the mass media that it supports. TV stations will refuse even paid programming from any source that seems likely to upset their best sponsors.

Now, the average viewer watches 23 hours of TV each week (some estimates are even higher), and this includes 4½ hours of advertising. However, children watch more than adults, and some kids average as much as 70 hours of TV a week! Since modern apartments tend to be small, and there may be nowhere for a tired parent to send the kids outside to play, it isn't surprising that the "electronic baby-sitter" is so popular. But the low quality of kids' programming is almost criminal—not to mention the fact that the average kid will have seen over 350,000 commercial messages before finishing high school! What effect is all this TV having?

Researchers tell us that a person watching TV goes into something similar to a hypnotic trance. The reasoning function and the motor centers shut down, but the emotional centers continue to function. While the critical faculties are disconnected, advertising suggestions can imbed themselves in our subconscious without resistance, especially now that many ads are a collage of scenes that change too fast to be consciously screened. As soon as the tube is turned off, all that pent-up and unexpressed emotion causes adults to be jittery and kids to be downright hyperactive. To avoid conflict, family members are likely to seek refuse back in the tube, and many people never acquire the skills of entertaining themselves constructively.

There are also various physical effects, which include lack of exercise, possible visual impairment and lack of hand/eye coordination (from keeping the eyes focused at one spot for so long, while the body remains stationary), and health dangers from spending so much time so close to a cathode ray tube. CRT's can emit X-radiation, a harmful electromagnetic field, and a high-pitched whine that is horribly annoying to people who can hear in those frequencies. With computer terminals now in almost every office, health factors should be of major concern. VDT screens have been associated with problems that include migraines, skin rashes, miscarriages and birth defects.

(Thanks, Geneva, for telling me about it as I prepare this on a VDT screen.—GS)

Now, all the above problems would exist even if the quality of TV programming were beyond reproach, but I think we all know how bad it actually is. The issue of TV violence has been done to death, but the problem still persists. If you have any children on your holiday shopping list, you will probably find that your department store has little to offer in the toy section that doesn't feature violence, sports or machines for little boys, and domesticity or sex appeal for little girls.

So now I will mention the way women tend to be portrayed in the media. Er, make that "females," as many of the people in question are prepubescent! In a culture where even five-year-old girls are portrayed with "sex appeal," we shouldn't be surprised that many will be sexually molested before they reach adulthood. And is it really necessary to show a woman in a bathing suit to induce us to buy a computer? Most recently, there is a trend toward showing sexy female executives (using products like deodorant and headache pills!). Some might take this to be a step in the right direction, as the same products were previously advertised by sexy housewives. But you may notice that advertisements very seldom portray male executives as having much sex appeal. Men learned a long time ago that what works in the bedroom is out-ofplace in the boardroom. According to the media images, however, women are still expected to look irresistible all the time—even while sweating through an aerobics session! Since no real person, not even the models who posed for them, can measure up to those \$10,000-a-second advertising fantasies, young women acquire a warped idea of what they are supposed to look like. The endless quest to correct their imagined deficiencies, of course, is just the ticket for selling expensive but useless "beauty" products.

Junk food is one of the most pernicious things advertised on TV, but I've decided to devote a whole separate article to food issues, and will not deal with that here.

The most degrading general tend is the constant implication that spiritual and emotional needs can be met by buying some product. Once people fall for that one, they can be led around by the nose forever. And almost every ad contains this message in some form or other.

But the use of the media for political opinion-making could represent the most immediate danger. People have confused image with reality to the extent that playing a politician can now win more votes than actually being one. Political figures at all levels are supplied with a bevy of advisors and speechwriters. However, the skills needed to look fatherly and sound sincere while reading someone else's speech to an anonymous audience are not exactly the same

skills needed to understand global events and conduct effective face-to-face negotiations with other world leaders!

A surprising number of people still take the newscasts at face value. But a little thought would quickly reveal that, even if the coverage is faultless (which it rarely is), the amount of information that can fit into a 60-second news spot is not adequate to allow us a true understanding of any situation whosoever. But we get used to having things spoon-fed to us, and we get lazy. Teachers now complain that students cannot pay attention for longer than the time between commercial breaks, so classroom material must be broken up into short modules and punctuated with entertaining anecdotes and jokes.

For the most part, access to TV and radio broadcast time is in the hands of the rich, whose motivation is to get richer. This is clearly an unsatisfactory state of affairs. However, where public-access broadcast facilities are available, exhibitionists and cranks are usually first in line to take advantage of them. More thoughtful people are reluctant to be found in such company and, of course, are acutely aware that their amateurish productions cannot measure up to the technical quality of those \$10,000-a-second state-of-the-art numbers. So far, public-access media tend to be controlled more by people who like the media as such, rather than by people who have anything to say.

SUBLIMINALS

Most people have heard about subliminals, but how many of us really believe they are in common use? A careful inspection of a few major magazine ads will usually reveal some startling examples, often of a macabre or a sexual nature. But do subliminals actually work?

Unfortunately, they probably do. I can remember one occasion, while browsing in a bookstore, when I suddenly started to feel...weird! Knowing that I had felt just fine only a moment before, I stopped in my tracks to figure out what had happened. I soon realized that, without my conscious awareness, my eyes had focused on the title of a book on the far side of the room. The title said, "ANXIETY" in big jagged letters! On another occasion, when I entered a room and noticed a creepy feeling, I discovered that someone had left in view a copy of a magazine with a picture of a striking rattlesnake on the cover.

In both these cases, uneasy feelings were provoked by stimuli that I hadn't been consciously aware of. However, unlike true subliminals, the causes were plainly visible once I looked for them. A true subliminal is below the threshold of conscious perception, so that you can't be sure it is really there even if you do have suspicions. Need I add that people who go around seeing and hearing hidden messages where

"normal" people perceive none, tend to be diagnosed as mentally ill? And consider how much stimuli most of us are subjected to in the course of a day. If even a small part of it contains subliminal messages, our inner workings are being seriously tampered with. If the resulting tension can be alleviated by buying some particular product that sprang to mind, who would hesitate to do it?

MUSIC

Popular music has often been accused of containing subliminals, but so far as I know, only recently has this actually been true. There are also certain rhythms that have the power to either strengthen or weaken the human energy field. (Remember in the 60s when the Beatles were claimed to be a Communist plot to hypnotize the Youth of America?) Even without any unusual gimmicks, music has power to shape the emotions and stir people to action. All armies use military marching music, and the Scottish bagpipes were once considered a weapon of war! (Imagine being on a dark cold moor and hearing that eerie sound coming out of the mist!) Repressive governments usually ban the forms of music that they feel are threatening to the status quo. Nazi Germany even had regulations on the tempo at which permitted instrumental music could be played!

Mot people have strong feelings about punk rock, one way or the other. Personally, I would as soon stand next to a jackhammer. However, a look at an audience of slam-dancers will reveal facial expressions of tranced-out religious ecstasy, as though the force of the music creates an instant out-of-the-body experience for some people. While the conscious mind is absent, the subconscious becomes even more vulnerable to suggestion, and some punk and New Wave music does openly contain subliminals. I know of one such recording on the theme of suicide!

Although we have a strong potential for harm here, so far as I can tell, punk still does not contain a heavy element of financial exploitation. Its blatant negativity springs rather from the rage and frustration of today's youth. Your average three-chord garage band probably lacks the know-how and sophistication to inflict a lot of damage on the listener, except through sheer decibels. There is less excuse for the malevolent lyrics of successful serious rock musicians like the Rolling Stones.

Then there is Heavy Metal, a category unto itself. Its frantic tempo basically expresses adolescent libido, but satanic themes are also popular. Which leads us to....

SATANISM

For all the furor, I get the impression that most socalled "Satanists" are just teens into sex, drugs and rock & roll. They have been duly warned by their parents that these three pastimes are "of the Devil," so of course the Devil starts to seem more and more attractive! If the guilty teen finds himself or herself thinking of the Devil during sex, and particularly during orgasm, the Devil image will soon became charged with substantial erotic power. Thus, the paradox that prudish moral values actually set the stage for Satanism!

A recent broadcast over a Mormon-run Seattle TV station gave "four warning signs" that would alert parents if their kids were dabbling with Satanism. Wanna hear them? A sudden drop in grades; designs scratched into the skin; unusual nicknames, and one fingernail painted black! These are all factors more associated with adolescent turbulence than with Satanism or any other cult. I imagine that broadcast served to stir up the conflict level in quite a few already-troubled households, and possibly even introduced the intriguing idea of Satanism to kids who had never given it a thought before. My own advice would be, don't worry unless your kid keeps a picture of Old Nick over the altar and you start finding dead animals in the garbage can!

A few lunatics do seize on Satanic symbols as the theme for their crimes, but I know of little evidence that these nuts belong to any kind of organized religion. Even if they do, we must keep in mind that crimes are committed by members of other religions as well!

There certainly is a Church of Satan—several, in fact. The best-known is headed by Anton LaVey, who coincidentally used to work with a circus before he found Satan! His philosophy is a sort of fatuous self-centeredness that has little to offer from a spiritual standpoint for either good *or* evil, except insofar as it is a waste of time and energy. Almost certainly, if any satanic criminal rings do exist, these public Satanists are not among them.*

Green Egg magazine recently featured an article by a woman who claims to be descended from a line of generational Satanists whose cruel and unsavory practices included child sacrifice. The members of this cult were said to masquerade as ordinary members of the community, with respected professions that included law-enforcement officials, politicians, doctors, lawyers, and even clergy! Remember that the ancient alchemists and sorcerers were learned men. They were not rebellious teenagers mucking around in their Daddy's garage, playing make-believe games with the "demons" of sex-&-drugs-&-rock'n'roll!

In one of her songs, folksinger Buffie St. Marie has a verse that goes: "Deep in the heart of town the Devil dresses up. He keeps his nails clean. Didja think he'd be a boogie man?"

Next we are going to look at the most modern variation of a very ancient evil.

CHILD SACRIFICE

First off, let us consider this subject in the most general sense: Each year, 15 million children (that's almost 40,000 per day) die unnecessarily as a result of poverty and hunger. But last year, as a result of the worsening economic conditions, plus the "economic reform measures" imposed by the World Bank, over half a million extra child deaths took place, in addition to the former "background" mortality rate. When things get tough, the poor are always the first to suffer, unless special measures are taken to protect them. UNICEF is calling for a special Children's Summit, where world leaders will work out a strategy to protect the world's children during these times of change. However, so far no nation has stepped forward to host such a Summit.

When times are really bad, as they are now, it has long been the practice for poor families in many parts of the world to sell their youngest child. This may sound inhumane to us, but remember that the child is probably going to die, otherwise. This way, the family gets a little money (the going rate for a baby in Brazil is \$20), and the child gets a chance at survival. If it is very lucky, it will be adopted by a rich couple who can't have children of their own. If it is unlucky, it may be fated for a life of slavery or prostitution.

More recently, another financial alternative has opened up for the down and out. Now, just as street people in the U.S. sell their blood to blood banks, in the Third World a person can sell a vital organ to the organ bank. They earn less for this than you would expect, but even \$2,000 can seem like an enormous sum to a family whose income has been less than \$200 a year. It would probably enable the whole family to climb out of poverty. Meanwhile, that organ is sold to someone in North America or Europe for about \$75,000. This in itself seems almost criminal, when you consider that in the donor's home village people are probably dying for lack of clean water and primary health care that could be provided for only pennies a day. But the worst is yet to come.

Voluntary organ donors are not enough to supply the demand, so criminal rings have begun buying and kidnapping babies, and then butchering them and selling their vital organs! In Central America, a "human farm" was discovered with about 20 infants, and tiny corpses missing vital organs were found nearby. The European Parliament has passed a resolution calling for an international investigation into the sources of organs used as transplants.

Right now, you're probably saying to yourself, "That's the most disgusting thing I've heard in my entire life!"

However, let's keep in mind that the number of infants meeting death in this way is probably only a few hundred each year. The 15 million children who die of more mundane causes need our intervention just as badly.

WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

From what I see, economics as it is practiced today is a form of Black Magic. The more technologically advanced we become, the more people are out of work and the poorer they become. The more food we produce, the faster farmers go broke; the excess food is used to fatten livestock, and the poor still starve.

Human lives are being destroyed by the manipulation and worship of abstract symbols, and certainly people are reaping enormous benefits from this practice. The Third World is now in "debt slavery" to pay back the *interest* on loans for projects that never benefitted the poor in the first place. (When those loans were made, interest rates were much lower.) The economic system we still have, internationally, is the same one established in colonial days; it is specifically designed to result in a transfer of resources from the Third World to the Developed World. Morally, they don't owe us anything; we are the ones who owe *them* the debt. Africa, India and South America were rich continents before Europeans arrived on the scene!

But all this "us" and "them" talk just confuses the issue. Joe Smith of Podunk, Iowa, knows very well that he never did anything to oppress anyone. However, he may not realize the things his government is doing in his name, or the practices of the multinational corporations who sell him his food, car, gasoline, clothing, appliances, etc., etc., etc. Even with modern technology, things don't pop up out of nowhere. Somewhere along the line, human labor is involved. If it is a job so dangerous, unpleasant or ill-paid that nobody here wants to do it, it is likely to be taken to the Third World!

The way our society is structured now, it is almost impossible for individuals to avoid participating in some of these chains of exploitation. There is no reason for us to indulge in personal quilt over a situation which we did not create, but we do need to become aware of it and start working out some humane alternatives. Not just because we are such good, compassionate people, but also because it could happen here! The multinational Powers That Be owe loyalty to no nation, and they have no special love for North Americans. Our own national debt skyrocketed during the Reagan era and now exceeds that of all the Third World nations combined. When will the World Bank start demanding "structural readjustments" of our own economies? Medicare, Social Security, and free public schools are likely to be the first to go!

Argentina used to be a prosperous nation, comparable to the U.S. in standard of living, but a few years ago its fortunes were changed by the stroke of a pen. Now most of its people are living in grinding poverty.

That's what I call Black Magic!

—Geneva Hagen

^{*}It should be emphasized that Satanism bears no relationship to Wicca or Neo-Paganism, which do not even believe in the Devil, much less worship him!

Great Birds of the Allegheny Plateau

By Curt Sutherly

"Be assured that there were and are a few survivors of a remarkable bird that the Indians and white man called thunderbirds."

normous birds, larger than condors, once soared the skies over North America. This was long ago—thousands of years before Columbus, or Leif Eriksson. Fossil remains tell us these creatures were widespread across the continent. They also tell us that the great birds are extinct, or at least that's the prevailing opinion.

But is it possible that a remnant population survived into colonial times? The indications are there, in legend and folklore. Even more startling is the possibility, albeit remote, that a very few of the giant birds still exist, tottering on the brink of true extinction.

LEGEND

The Amerindians spoke routinely of great birds which, they said, were a species unlike any other—not eagles, or vultures, or even condors. They handed this lore down through the generations and across tribal groups so that by the time the Europeans arrived, the history of the great birds had acquired "a certain mythological content." Otherwise, according to the late zoologist Ivan T. Sanderson, it was "a perfectly straightforward statement of zoological fact.

"All that the Amerinds said," Sanderson observed, writing in the April 1972 issue of *Pursuit*, the journal of the Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained (an organization he founded), "was that they had a truly giant condor that lived on the mountain tops and was primarily nocturnal; and they had tens of thousands of wood and stone sculpts of this bird on their totempoles and other monuments out west."

These birds were known to the Amerindians by many names: *Heloha* to the Choctaw of the Southeast; *Tlanuwa* to the Cherokee; *Adee* to the Northwest Coast tribes, to list a few. Palefaces came to know

them as the thunderbirds—creatures so huge they were "monstrous."

Applied to contemporary reports of giant birds, that adjective has also been used as a proclamation of disbelief. Nonetheless, it has happened time and again.

During the late 1970s in southern Texas and Illinois, huge birds, or bird-like creatures, were reported by otherwise sensible residents. Rural and wilderness areas of New Jersey, Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia have all been the scene of encounters with giant birds. And in Pennsylvania, the town of Jersey Shore, Lycoming County, was the focus for a wave of sporadic sightings that began about mid-1969 and continued until about mid-1971.

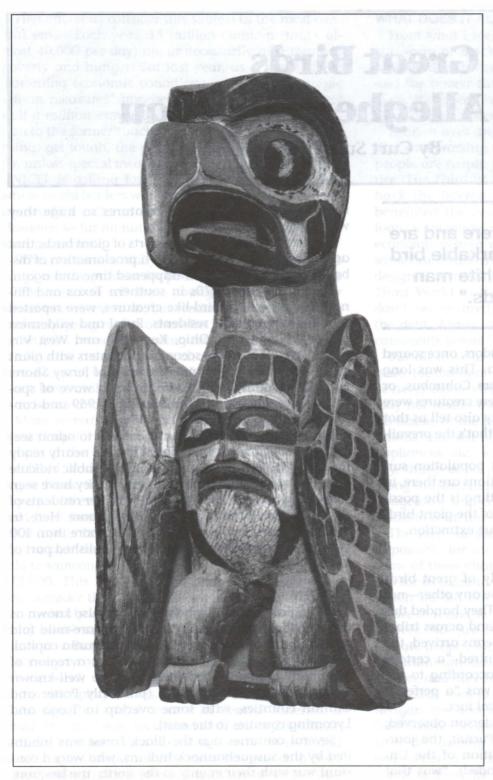
Of course, anyone with brass enough to admit seeing such a bird is generally thought of as nearly ready for a padded cell. On the other hand, public ridicule doesn't always deter those who believe they have seen something unusual. Ask some of the older residents of the Allegheny Plateau, north of Jersey Shore. Here, in this rugged, wilderness region, and for more than 100 years, the thunderbird has been an established part of local folklore.

HISTORY

Geologically, the Allegheny Plateau (also known as the Allegheny Highlands) is a 200-square-mile fold stretching from Harrisburg, the Pennsylvania capital, north to Lake Ontario, New York. It is a region of abundant heavy timber, including the well-known Black Forest of Pennsylvania (primarily Potter and Clinton counties, with some overlap in Tioga and Lycoming counties to the east).

Several centuries ago the Black Forest was inhabited by the Susquehannock Indians, who waged constant war with their enemy to the north, the Iroquois. By 1676 the Susquehannocks were defeated, and the Black Forest became the domain of the Iroquois and the Algonquin tribes to the east.

Rich in natural bounty, the Black Forest was jealously guarded by the tribal groups, who forbid free exploration of the region by European settlers. Consequently, the territory became known as the Forbidden Land. But by 1784, when the land was purchased under treaty, the Amerinds were forced to give way.



One hundred years later the booming lumber industry nearly eradicated this great Native American preserve. Millions of board feet of timber were felled and floated down the Susquehanna River to satisfy a growing nation's construction needs. By the early 1900s the industry had moved on, leaving parcels of barren land where entire forests once stood.

Much of this land was later reforested by the Civilian Conservation Corps under the direction of Pres-

ident Franklin D. Roosevelt. Today these forested areas, along with some three million acres of original woodland, form a wilderness that shelters comparatively few people and abundant wildlife.

It is a place where a man is easily lost, and where great birds could conceivably fly.

GIANT WINGSPAN

On a sunlit day in July 1987, Herb Nesman stood outside his summer residence in northwest Clinton County, and told of seeing a giant bird fly over an oil derrick he was working in 1978. Nesman's sighting—the last of many which he says date to his childhood—occurred near the town of Snow Shoe in Centre County, some 20 miles south of the huge Alvin R. Bush Dam, where his summer home is located. (He winters in the town of Renova, 14 miles to the east on state Route 120).

"I was working for Delta Drilling," recalled Nesman, a cautious, alert man of 56 who once worked the western oil rigs, and whose speech still hints of days spent in the West. "I was on the derrick, it was May or June, and I thought it was a small airplane until I saw its wings start flapping. Then I knew what it was."

What it was, in Nesman's understanding, was a California condor. He said he based this belief on statements made when he was a boy by a local historian and storyteller, the late Hiram R. Cramner.

"He always said the birds were condors that had migrated east," Nesman explained. As a boy, growing up in the region, "it was nothing to see several (birds) at a time. When you saw them, it was always

the wingspan that got you—they had such long wings. Now that I think about it, they weren't all the same size." Some, he said, "were monstrous, like adults and young birds flying together."

Asked to estimate the wingspan of the bird over Show Shoe, Nesman was uncertain. "The derrick I was on was 60 or 80 feet high. The wingspan could have been over 18 feet."

Nesman, who operates a bait shop below Bush

Dam, where huge birds have been reported in the past, said he never saw any of the creatures on or near the ground. He was therefore unable to offer details about head, claws or body. He said the giant birds were more numerous years ago, when they were still occasionally seen in groups of two or three. "I think they're almost extinct," Nesman lamented, "if they aren't already."

Assuming that Nesman's information is not overstated, these birds were almost certainly not condors. The nearly extinct California condor, *Gymnogyps californianus*, has a wingspan of about nine feet and is sooty black. Its South American cousin, the Andean condor, *Vultur gryphus*, has a span of ten to twelve feet and is glossy black with white upper wing coverts, and a collar of white neck feathers. These are the largest of known soaring birds. And yet, they are smaller than the elusive, wraith-like birds of the Allegheny Plateau, which are most often said to be grey in black in color.

But if not condors, what then?

Imagination, argued a highly skeptical representative of the Pennsylvania Game Commission—the agency charged with establishing and administering policy on wild game in the state. Or exaggerated reports of turkey vultures.

Another viewpoint came form 83-year-old Charlie Cross, who lives in the mountains north of Bush Dam. "Maybe bald eagles," said Cross, offering an easy smile. He was seated in the living room of his ranch-style home, with a storm rumbling outside. A lifelong outdoorsman and local wildlife expert, Cross seemed the ideal person to question about the legendary big birds of the Allegheny Plateau. Unfortunately, "I've never seen one. Personally, I think most of these (birds) are just stories," he declared with a grin.

In defense of this view, Cross explained that he has been a deputy forest ranger and a lumberman, and was a foreman for the old Civilian Conservation Corps. He has been a trapper and hunting guide. In 1986 he shot his 62nd whitetail buck.

"And in all that time I never saw any sign of a giant bird, and I used to walk 35 miles of train and 14 miles of line clear-cut."

But Cross will confirm reports of a puma in the area, even though the big cats are officially extinct in the East. And he says bald eagles nesting near Bush Lake have been there for several years (a mature eagle was observed two days before the interview, flying over the lake).

In fact, Cross suggested bald eagles as explanation for large birds spotted by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lyman Jr., of Coudersport, Potter County. However, this sighting—in 1973 near the village of Cross Fork, on the Clinton-Potter county border and ten miles from Bush Dam—was made years before anyone saw the eagles.

In a letter to me, Lyman said: "They (the big birds)

are not like anything in our Golden Field Guide to Birds of North America. A calculation by trigonometry (triangulation) showed their wingspan of seven feet, maybe longer; they were not eagles or turkey vultures."

Lyman's father, the late Robert R., Sr., scribed two books on unusual events in the Black Forest. His second volume, *Amazing Indeed*, was published a year before his death on April 2, 1974. It contains a chapter devoted to local thunderbird lore, including a sighting of his own.

"About 1940," he wrote, "I saw a huge bird which I am certain was a thunderbird. It was on the ground in the center of Sheldon Road, about two miles north of Coudersport. It was brownish in color. Legs and neck were short. It was between three and four feet tall and stood upright like a very large vulture. When I was about 150 feet away it raised to fly. It was plain to see its wingspread was equal to the width of the road bed, which I measured and found to be 25 feet. I will concede it may have been 20 feet but no less. The wings were very narrow, not over one foot wide.

'The bird...could have gone straight up the road and missed the trees but it did no such thing," Lyman said. "It flew off at right angles to the road, through dense second-growth timber and had no trouble.

"I gained the impression that this was a young bird, which may explain why I was able to get so close to it. Other local reports claim the thunderbirds are grayish in color. As they mature they may change from brown to grey."

A historian and naturalist, with a degree in forestry, Lyman made a thorough study of thunderbird lore in the Black Forest. In doing so, he documented many old reports, the earliest of which came from one Elvira Ellis Coats.

CHRONOLOGY OF SIGHTINGS

Born in 1833, Elvira was the granddaughter of Richard Ellis, founder of Ellisburg, Potter County. She was said to have been acquainted with the Amerinds who still lived there, and who told her of huge birds they often saw but never harmed. These birds were described as vulture-like but much larger. When flying they appeared enormous because of their wingspan (emphasis added).

Another early report was made by Fred Murray in 1892. A resident of Westfield, Tioga County, Murray claimed to have seen a flock of giant birds in Dent's Run, Elk County, near the Cameron County line. He also described them as vulture-like but much larger, with a wingspan of at least 16 feet.

According to Lyman: "The report made news at the time. An ornithologist from Pittsburgh came to Murray's lumber camp to observe them. He said similar birds had been seen in remote parts of West Virginia and Kentucky."

Yet another account dates to 1898, when a farmer

near Centerville, Crawford County, supposedly livetrapped a huge bird that had been feeding on a dead cow. According to Lyman, the farmer managed to transfer the bird to a cage where it was viewed by A.P. Akeley, a superintendent of Potter County Schools. Akeley is said to have described the bird as grey in color and over four feet tall, with short legs and neck.

"The farmer thought it was an Andean condor," Lyman reported. "Mr. Akeley says it was not black. There was no large white ruff of downy feathers around the lower part of the neck, and the skin above that was not bare, which eliminates the (Andean) condor. Neither was it a California condor for much the same reasons."

Lyman viewed these and similar accounts matterof-factly. And in his books and correspondence he expressed annoyance with anyone who suggested that the great birds were a myth. "Be assured," he wrote, "that there were and are a few survivors of a remarkable bird that the Indians and white man called thunderbirds. They inhabit high mountain ranges and are seldom seen."

The apparent rarity of the birds was underscored by Lyman in a letter to me dated January 12, 1974—the last such communication before his death.

He wrote: "...In the area where they are most often seen, there are people who do not believe they exist. Last summer (1973), Duncan Murphy (a West Coast researcher) came all the way from California to search for one. He was joined by a young man and his wife who was a pilot. They searched the hills from the air. No big bird did they see. Murphy stayed for several days in the Jersey Shore area, interviewing those who have seen these huge birds. No nest has ever been found, and none ever shot."

But Lyman believed that the Black Forest thunderbirds were being forced from their home range by civilization. He believed their territory in 1974 was reduced to the southern edge of the Black Forest, "north of the Susquehanna River, between Pine Creek at the east and Kettle Creek at the west. All reports during the past 20 years come from this area," he said. He included in this the numerous 1969–1971 sightings around Jersey Shore, two examples of which follow:

On November 9, 1970, Anna and the late Clyde Mincer watched a huge bird soar over their riverfront home for a period of about 15 minutes. Later the same day the birds (or another like it) returned, cruising overhead for ten minutes. The estimated wingspan was 18 feet.

Clyde Mincer described its flight manner (to Robert Lyman Sr.): "It came over town soaring on the air currents. When it got off it would flap its wings slowly to get back on...It seemed to have trouble keeping with the currents. It would soar a while, lose altitude and then fly back up."

The following year, on June 8, 1971, a great bird

was reported feeding a dead opossum along Cement Hollow Road, east of Jersey Shore. In a letter to Lyman, one of two witnesses remarked that the bird was "big and filled out. It did not run to take off. It just flapped its wings twice and was up." The estimated wingspan? Again, 18 feet.

EXPLANATION

Exaggeration? Myth? Or reality?

The noted Fortean writer and zoologist, Loren Coleman, has collected reams of bird bird reports from throughout the country. He believes that at least some accounts are accurate and factual. Furthermore, Coleman suggests that the great birds could be a near-relative of the condor—a prehistoric creature known as the teratorn.

Fossil remains of this presumably extinct 8,000-year-old bird tell of at least three different species: the teratomis merriami, with a wingspan of 11 to 12 feet; the teratomis incredibilis, with a wingspan of nearly 17 feet, and an Argentine fossil nearly twice the size of the merriami—a bird that stood almost five feet high and had a wingspan of about 24 feet.

Coleman notes (in his book *Curious Encounters*, Faber & Faber, 1985) that the bones of the teratorns have been found in deposits across the United States, from California to Florida. These deposits are commonly found near sites of human habitation, suggesting a hunter-prey bond between bird and Native American.

"Were the Amerindians killing off these birds for their feathers or because the birds had been kidnapping their stock and children?" Coleman asks.

Indeed, there are paleontologists who believe the teratorn was a predator and not a carrion-eater like the condor (although condors, and even turkey vultures, have been known to kill small birds or animals). They support this view by noting that the bird had a long, narrow, hooked beak of a kind that would have enabled it to swallow small animals whole, or rend much larger prey. Perhaps coincidentally, there are Native American stories that suggest the thunder-bird was a predator that disemboweled living victims.

Although ornithologists and paleontologists can deduce only so much from fossil remains, most suggest that the teratorn was vulturine—that is, vulture-like or condor-like in appearance. (The huge creature was of the New World family *Cathartidae*, which includes the condors.) Still, considering its size, suspected nature and appearance, it is evident that the teratorn could have been the thunderbird of legend.

But is it possible that a handful of these birds still exist? Are they even now making their last stand, hiding in the crags and crevices of our country's remaining wilderness?

Will we someday find their bones only to realize we discovered them just too late?

—Curt Sutherly

Demigods of Our Time

by Craig Della Penna

We cannot truly imagine, much less guarantee, the form an alien superman may take. Very possibly they may move among us, taking our measure and applying an unknown standard with which to judge us.

ave we been visited by extraterrestrials? Have experiments been performed on humans by alien intelligences? Are we being manipulated by unknown forces attempting to control our minds?

In order, the answers are yes, yes, and yes.

In the past decade we have played host to an increasing number of diverse and bizarre lifeforms. What began, in the fifties, as a gentle introduction to ETs in *The Day The Earth Stood Still* has become a panoply of fantastic dimensions. From the elegiac *Close Encounters* vision of a gentle-folk descending from the stars to touch our lives with grace; to the gutwrenching, paranoic nightmares of "Alien/Aliens". We have been visited by all of these creatures—at the very least—in our dreams.

In all of these movies runs the common thread of inviting the viewer, or reader, into an artificial mental environment where a series of events takes place designed to explicate a perspective, extrapolate from a situation, or follow a line of thought to its conclusion. These are, in fact, experiments whether they are being consciously controlled by some outside agency or whether they are merely manifestations of a cultural preoccupation with the godhead.

We are, and have been, manipulated by one agency attempting to control our minds—Madison Avenue. Advertising agencies are an easy and powerful example of manipulation. Consider the latest presidential election: the intrusion of advertising techniques into mass media control of information has reached a peak. No issues of any substance were discussed in any of the news media and the election was decided solely on the basis of which candidates'

advertising was the more effective.

As another part of the puzzle, look at the prevalence in our society, of fantasy. We see it in many aspects of our lives from the diversity and complexity of fantasy and speculative fiction, to the explosion of comic books. These phenomena do not exist in a vacuum. They go hand in hand with the nature of society as it, too, changes.

We, in this society, have a conflict of myths. Partially because we are an artificially created society we chose man-sized myths to carry us through a reason-dominated age. We were also a deeply religious culture, delving for strength into a much older well than humanism.

Now, 200 years later, that well of religious belief has begun to dry up and the power of science—beautiful though it is—does not serve us well in this area. We humans need deep mysteries to drive us onward: we are seekers and questioners, diviners and seers; and our ignorance is precious to us in a way we quite likely will never understand. This is the area we have always filled with religion, but if not religion—then what? There are a myriad of answers, I am going to focus on the hero here.

The hero is a powerful figure in any culture. The hero is the ideal, the paragon. He holds our standard as a people up for us to see—he is the demigod. Look into a culture with opens eyes and see their heroes to know where that culture stands. Who are our heroes? Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Diamond Jim Brady, Jesse James, Al Capone, Martin Luther King, Jr., Alvin York, Mookie Wilson, Rocky, Superman, The Shadow, Ripley, E.T., Indiana Jones, Obi Wan Kenobi, The Batman.

Interesting, isn't it? We have created our own mythologies, powerful and elemental in their own way, certainly they reflect our concerns and fears and show us where we are strong or weak. Equally interesting is the fact that these heroes—or any others in our culture, pick your own—have a curious lack that one doesn't see in any other culture: they do not have the force of the culture behind them. This is partially due to the diversity we enjoy. No cultural icon is likely to achieve the broad agreement that a god system in other cultures might have—we are too diverse, too cantanker-

Winter, 1989–90 25

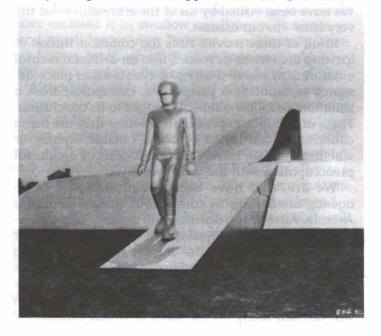


ous—to allow such a consensus. In that regard we are probably safequarding ourselves from the abuses of power that theocracies and totalitarian systems of all sorts have indulged in; but there is a trap here too, for we watch our children glued to the television set ingesting Masters of the Universe. It looks totally insipid and yet there is a kind of power in the characterizations. A small, puny, false kind of power which says "Only in your fantasies can you be truly who you wish to be: there you can be kind, noble, generous, brave, great-hearted, loving and wise. Elsewhere, in the real world you must be faster, tougher, stronger, more ruthless, richer, more powerful than your enemies—and all others are your enemies." Little wonder that these self-same children grow up to be Ivan Boskys or Michael Millikens, greed and avarice are all that they have been truly taught to value: the good things belong to the fantasy world of Santa Claus and the tooth fairy.

So we grow up and continue the mad dance to the point where we sometimes cross over the line between what we wish to be and what we fear to see. A George Adamski is not a bad man, but we now know what lies under Venus' bright clouds and we will find no help there. It may be so with any possibility of human-ET contact. It is at least as likely as not that we won't even recognize an extraterrestrial life-form when we encounter it. We make a claim for a carbon-liauid water based bioform because it is the only form we know. So we create the forms we need, we have a western myth and we create the Lone Ranger. Billy the Kid. John Wayne—the reality and the fantasy get intermixed. We have an ET myth and we create Luke Skywalker, Flash Gordon, Klaatu, or the aliens of Whitley Strieber—the fantasy and the reality get intermixed. In the end we sometimes forget the difference. Perhaps our children won't even know the difference.

How do we cope with this problem, we children of Gilgamesh? Partially by striving to improve the lot we have been given. Granted this has led to abuses by an overwhelmingly technocratic society. But each of the problems we have posed to ourselves has led us onward in a peculiar way. We are constantly reminding ourselves that we have a limited sphere of influence (pardon the pun) and we are continually pressured by the hand of Malthus. We are a species incapable of controlling our reproductive urge; what

will the results be 100 years hence? Over 16 billion people according to the birth rate. Does anyone seriously imagine we can support that many humans?



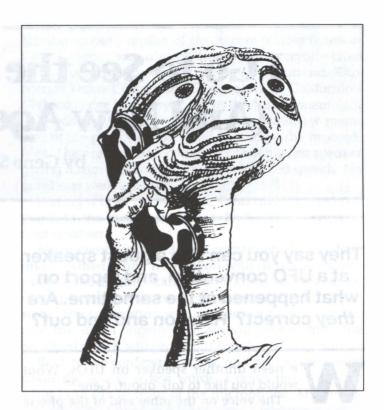
What will we do? Who will help us? What heroes/leaders will show us the way? Certainly it won't be insipid jellyfish like Bush. On the other hand perhaps we'll have our own Pol Pot. Gaia will solve her problem, and our survival may not be a paramount consideration.

Theodore Sturgeon once wrote a fascinating story called Occam's Scalpel in which he used the logic of Occam's Razor to present a theory dealing with the problems we now have—pollution, greenhouse warming, desertification. His proposed simplest solution was that the aliens were already among us. That they had achieved control over the multinational corporations which really rule the world and that they were using those companies to "terraform" the planet to their specifications. I remember reading that story with a certain amount of wry appreciation and a healthy dose of skepticism. Now, 10 years later, I look back on the tale with puzzlement, unease and a lot more respect

What is it that leads to create demigods; what do they do or what powers do they possess that show us what we aspire to? Look at the history of the hero, saddled with the awesome responsibility of our dreams no mere human can bear up. Even those who have earned their citations in the crucible of the battlefield are often quiet and shy about the events. They realize, if we do not, that it is the very uniqueness of the experience that has conferred their status rather than some inherent virtue they alone possess.

We invent them to serve our needs, and if flesh won't serve, paper will. All our paper heroes provide us with a mirror of our desires. Take the simplest of them all—Superman. Look at his powers and his virtues; he can fly, has super strength, can see anywhere, can do anything, he is kind, virtuous, fair, merciful, honest—boring. Then go to our darkest hero on paper—The Batman. This is a much more interesting kind of fantasy. Here is some one no more blessed than you or I (although he is rich) who manages to jump, dive, and soar through the air to the befuddlement of his enemies; just like us, only more so. Perhaps he represents the alien among us—just like us, only different.

We seem to like our aliens that way too. For every benevolent ET or Close Encounters we have our Alien or The Thing, not to mention their countless schlock imitations. It may be that the best alien we have had was one of the simplest. In The Day The Earth Stood Still Michael Rennie's Klaatu was highly intelligent, very respectful, entirely self-sufficient in a completely strange and savage environment. He was also implacable, terrifyingly powerful, and absolutely ruthless in the accomplishment of his mission. Granted this was only a movie, but the points this movie made are important for us to remember, especially the subtler one about a stranger in a strange land. We cannot truly imagine, much less guarantee the form an alien



superman may take. Very possibly they may move among us, taking our measure and applying an unknown standard with which to judge us. We may be best off trying to be more human, fulfilling that possibility, the possibility our heroes show as an ideal. If we can meet that goal, we will be ready for them when they come.

Meanwhile, we can take a renewed interest in the lessons our home-grown aliens have to teach us. We can truly see ourselves reflected in the paper heroes we admire. And to answer the charge that this is just child's play I will say that they show us the truth, ugly or not, without any pretty coverings because they have not yet learned to dissemble as we have. We must ask ourselves who really represents us as a people: the square-jawed super-hero fighting the battle for truth and justice. Helping old ladies across the street, rescuing those in need from the depredations of evil villains. Or are we better served by the Madison Avenue paragon: selfish to a fault, self-made rich by pillaging some hapless company, uncaring, unfeeling, uninterested in the fate of the "losers" all about him.

There is a message here for us. It is being broadcast loud and clear in the simplest form possible—comic book heroes and movie stars in much the same simple forms we used to communicate in the caves at Lescaux twenty-five thousand years ago. If we do not wake up and read what is written for us, who will?

—Craig Della Penna

Batman, TMs & © 1989 DC Comics Inc. The Day the Earth Stood Still, © 1951 Twentieth-Century Fox. ET, © 1982 Universal City Studios, Inc.

I Go to See the National UFO (And New Age) Conference

by Gene Steinberg

They say you can't be a guest speaker at a UFO convention, and report on what happened at the same time. Are they correct? Read on and find out?

e need another speaker on UFOs. What would you like to talk about, Gene?"

The voice on the other end of the phone was Tim Beckley, co-sponsor of the 1989 National UFO Conference, scheduled for Phoenix, Arizona.

In the 1970s, when I lectured professionally on UFOs and the Bermuda Triangle for a time, I would have said "yes" without hesitation. Now I know better. I thought for only a moment before I replied.

"Tim, I just can't enjoy the convention if I'm going to have to prepare a speech and worry about delivering it properly. Is there anything else I can do to help out?"

So that's how I ended up as moderator (whatever that's supposed to mean) of the main (Saturday evening) session on September 16. My job was going to be easy. Featured speakers included UFO contactee Wesley Bateman, South American UFO expert Antonio Huneeus, and our friendly visiting speaker from the United Kingdom, Jenny Randles.

Introducing them would be a snap—they would also have no trouble presenting their views in full detail without any help from my part. All I had to do was utter a few glib (and easily forgotten) words, sit down, snap some pictures and listen.

The late summer Arizona heat was not quite stifling, but there had been a record number of days of temperatures exceeding 100 degrees. Local residents were looking forward to the more temperate fall weather and the arrival of the tourist season. The business climate in Phoenix hadn't been too terrific lately. Once a boom town, the last year or so had seen a reduction in new job openings, and a decline in real estate values. Anyone who wants to relocate in Phoenix can get some real bargains in a nice house.

I stopped my rented car at a service station for a



Curt Sutherly attends the convention press conference.

quick fill-up. Just as the attendant was placing the nozzle of the gas hose into the gas tank lip of my car, I happened to glance at the price on the pump.

I stopped the attendant.

"Isn't \$1.41 a gallon a bit steep for this area?" I wondered.

"Well it's cheaper if you want to serve yourself."

"How much cheaper?"

"Oh, it's 91 cents a gallon over there."

I didn't think washing a windshield and checking oil was worth fifty cents a gallon, and quickly dashed over to the self-serve pumps.

The family and I arrived a week early for some much-needed rest and to get together with relatives we hadn't seen in more than a year. I have to admit that we even did a little house hunting along the way. One of these days we might even settle there.

Friday, September 15: Tim Beckley appeared nervous. He had invested quite a tidy sum in convention publicity, the lecture hall and so forth. It would take a large turn-out to cover that figure. Then there were all sorts of little details and last-minute crises to deal



British Ufologist Jenny Randles takes a break to read her favorite American UFO magazine.

with. I had sponsored the 1974 National UFO Conference, and I vowed never to do it again. I also swore I would never get involved in the UFO field again, and we all know what happened to that promise.

Most of the speakers had gathered into a large meeting room for a scheduled morning press conference. Convention chairman Jim Moseley arrived blurry-eyed. He was clearly not a morning person. Curt Sutherly came by and we shook hands. Though I had talked with Curt a number of times since we had both resumed UFO research, I hadn't seen him in person since 1976. He appeared to have aged little, if at all. Must be due to his Indian blood.

A crew from the *USA Today* syndicated TV show was on hand, and I quickly gathered up some copies of CAVEAT EMPTOR to afford them our unusual slant about the mysteries of the strange and unknown.

Dr. Frank Stranges shook my hand.

Long-time readers will remember that we had been none-too-kind to Stranges during our first incarnation. That he is still active after all these years is a tribute to his perseverance. He didn't seem to remember some of our prior criticisms of him all those years ago, as he asked to be placed on our mailing list again.

Jenny Randles came over, introduced herself, and handed my the latest issue of her *Northern UFO News* (37 Heathbank Road, Cheadle Heath, Stockport, Cheshire, England SK3 OUP).

Within minutes, convention co-sponsor Jim Speiser, Arizona MUFON chief Hal Starr, researchers Allen Benz and Ed Biebel and many of the guest speakers had joined the cast and crew.

Brad Steiger was on hand with a large carton of

books for the concession tables. My own carton, containing ample supplies of the four available issues of CAVEAT EMPTOR was also on hand. Not everyone cited in the advance publicity was able to attend. Our friends Vickie Cooper and Sherie Stark of California's UFO Magazine had bowed out at the last moment.

It wasn't really a press conference, and few members of the press were on hand to observe the proceedings. The presentation consisted of each guest speaker giving a short recitation of their scheduled speech. No questions were solicited.

During a brief coffee break, Brad and I lugged our goods to the main convention hall, deep in friendly conversation.

My ancient Praktica 35mm camera was fading fast, and I located a fine new Nikon with all sorts of automatic features (including motor drive, automatic focusing, a zoom lens and other essentials) at a local store. The convention was my chance to break in the new toy, and I eagerly shot several rolls of film, the results of which will grace this article.

Back to the conference room, and Beckley prevailed upon me to say a few words. I don't recall exactly what I did say in front of the microphone. My broadcast training must have taken over, and Moseley later told me I was "almost funny," which is quite a compliment coming from him. I couldn't recite a word of what I said.

I do remember cameras going off. There are going to be a lot of broken lenses. But I warned them.

The five convention sessions were well attended, almost a full house, I would estimate. So Beckley's approach, to integrate UFOs and New Age subjects, was vindicated. I watched the concession tables expec-



Tim Beckley looks a bit worried as the sessions begin.

Winter, 1989-90

tantly, wondering how the audience would react to the separate displays of CAVEAT EMPTOR. I wouldn't say we had a sell-out, but the piles gradually grew smaller as the convention went on.

With so many sessions and concurrent workshops, I can't tell you what everybody said, and I will confess it wasn't possible to attend all of the sessions. Curt Sutherly appeared most impressed by the remarks of Alfred D. Bielek, said to have been a participant in the controversial Philadelphia Experiment. During the course his talk, Bielek claimed that the science fiction movie of several years back, featuring Nancy Allen and Michael Pare, was very close to the truth.

The first session, though, was opened by Dr. Frank Stranges, who conducted the session like a revival meeting. Before his speech began, he had the entire audience stand up. I thought of the years I spent in the deep south as a radio broadcaster during the late 1960s.

On Saturday morning, Jim Moseley pretended to be serious and lectured about his study of crashed saucer rumors during the early 1950s.

The Saturday evening banquet featured Brad and Sherry Steiger, delivering the keynote addresses. While looking over the first pictures of the convention (courtesy of a one-hour photo lab), my 3½ year old son, Grayson, picked up a picture of Steiger and said "he's a good guy." Out of the mouths of babes...

During a brief visit to the banquet, Grayson introduced himself to Curt Sutherly, Tim Beckley and Jim Moseley, in succession, then went on to Steiger's table. He again was heard to remark, "he's a good quy."

Steiger has to be given the award for the funniest lecture of the convention. During his slide presenta-



Brad and Sherry Steiger at the convention banquet.



Jill Stevens, singer/songwriter of children's New Age music, stocking up on literature at the concession tables.

tion, Steiger said: "Here we see another artist's on-thespot rendering of a classic incident in the annals of the strange and unknown side of UFO research. Is it...A. The famous Mothman of West Virginia and New Jersey? B. The original Batman? C. Bill Moore's disguise as he excited backstage at the Las Vegas MUFON conference?"

That choice commentary went on through 22 selected slides.

Jenny Randles come to the podium to receive the Conference's "Ufologist of the Year" award.

During the session I hosted later that evening, I was particularly impressed by Randles' presentation on "Abductions—A European Viewpoint." She explained the differences between the American hardware-based approach to the UFO phenomenon, and the way enlightened European UFO researchers looked at the subject. After the session, she sat down before CAVEAT EMPTOR'S microphones for a fascinating question-and-answer session. You will read all about it in our next issue (end of plug).

Moseley hung out in the hotel bar, regaling the audience with funny tales of his experiences in saucer research through the years.

I don't regard conventions as places to learn cold, hard facts about UFOs and things that go bump in the night. It's a place where friends meet, talk about old times, and catch up on the latest gossip.

Next year, the convention moves to Miami Beach with "Mr. Ed" Walters giving his first major public lecture. Y'all come.

—Gene Steinberg



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Culture Corner:

John Keel's Disneyland, another look at reality, and abduction redux

DISNEYLAND OF THE GODS

By John A. Keel Amok Press, P.O. Box 51, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276, 1988, 174 pages, \$8.95 (plus \$1.00 postage).

The back cover blurb for Disneyland of the Gods refers to the author, John A. Keel, as "the world's foremost researcher into the unexplained and the paranormal." If this is an exaggeration, it is not so by much: For 40 years John has been examining the myriad pieces of the phenomenological puzzle. But, says he in the early pages of the book, "After 40 years in this game I find that I know less and less."

On the other hand, and as many older readers of this journal are well aware, Keel long ago became convinced that UFOs, strange creatures, and bizarre psychic phenomena are in some way interrelated. Or course, he is not the first to see a pattern thusly. Charles Fort offered similar insights nearly a century ago, and will always be regarded as the original grandmaster in this game. Others, too, have risen to prominence by speculating on a single mechanism driving all Fortean phenomena. Among them, the writers Brad Steiger, Jerome Clark, and the late Ivan T. Sanderson.

But Keel could very easily be considered the "heir apparent" to the literary pen and savvy wit fist wielded by Fort. As good as Steiger and Clark and Sanderson are and were, they generally fail to match Keel's talent for tongue-in-cheek. Or his ability to inject fiction-like drive and tension into a work of nonfiction.

Unfortunately, neither John's literary talent nor his wit have saved him from being savaged by those who dispute, or dislike, his rather uncomfortable UFO/Fortean viewpoint. To some degree, this problem is an outgrowth of jealousy; others wish they were so talented, or so

well known. But the larger part of the problem, I think, arises from John's insistence that he is *correct* in his thinking. He once told me, "What I believe personally is of no consequence. I write about my conclusions which I have based on the available evidence." And yet, in offering his conclusions he has drawn a line and refuses to budge. Then again, why should he?

Disneyland reeks of this unbending attitude. Herein, Keel continues a train of thought evident in all his books—a belief that some unseen power is at work, teasing and manipulating mankind. "This planet," he says, "has always been a Disneyland for the gods ... man has always been a pawn in some unintelligible cosmic game."

Commenting on contemporary UFO studies and those so involved, Keel declares the area "a sociological minefield because it has produced a worldwide movement of willing evangelists (Page 159)..." He continues, "The leading extraterrestrial proselytizers have not had direct experience with the phenomenon themselves. Nevertheless, they are convinced that there's someone out there and they happily spend all their time...advancing their ideas of the great benign invasion from the cosmos. There are obviously many grave dangers in this kind of blind belief."

A few pages along and Keel notes: "The history of the past 40 years shows how little we learn. The UFO mystery has been studied and solved again and again... Newcomers always had to start all over again. So the parade of ignorance continued."

Keel strength of conviction reminds one of Fort (profiled and lauded in the opening chapter). But his viewpoint, the Keelean viewpoint, is not absolute; nor is it immutable.

On Page 76, for instance, he refers to studies of the Loch Ness monster, and

attempts to link all such reports with accounts of UFOs. "...Like the flying saucers which appear and disappear ...these herds of monsters are elusive and scientifically impossible. If the herds come to the loch to breed...what do they feed on?" So saying, John ignores evidence that there is a sizeable food base in the loch.

A different kind of weakness is his frequent unwillingness (or inability) to offer attribution, or even hint at a source. On Page 62 he says, "A couple of years ago an inoperable bulldozer weighing several tons disappeared from the yard of a construction firm in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Since its engine was filled with sand, whoever accomplished the deed had to haul the huge machine away with an even larger machine...without leaving tracks or clues." John cites no source or reference for this account which, incidentally, occurred more than "a couple of years ago." (Indeed, more than a decade ago!) Many other anecdotes are likewise not updated or referred to by source. The result is a series of often bold reports which appear to have little if any foundation. Only John ever knows for sure.

In compiling Disneyland, Keel pulled together a wide assortment of Fortean information—including a sizeable amount of material from his own previous books and articles. A notation at the beginning of Disneyland acknowledges that some chapters originally appeared in Saga magazine in somewhat different form. While this type of borrowing is an accepted journalistic practice, one could often wish for more new information.

All matters considered, Disneyland of the Gods is not Keel's best tome. But it is also not his worst piece of writing. His wit is as sharp as ever. His direction perhaps more pointed. And his conclusion slightly less fatalistic than in pre-

vious volumes. But then, maybe John Keel is mellowing with age—or maybe this is merely his way of making peace with the gods that haunt our global Disneyland.

—Curt Sutherly

THE SAPIENS SYSTEM: THE ILLUMINATI CONSPIRACY

By Donald Holmes, M.D. Falcon Press, 3660 North 3rd Street, Phoenix, AZ 85012, 1987, \$9.95.

The best thing about this book is the cover illustration, which shows two yuppies climbing a pyramid of money. At the top is a carrot, and above that hovers a UFO.

The next best thing is the long introduction by Robert Anton Wilson, wherein he describes his "spaghetti" theory of conspiracies, as well as his own brand of Libertarian economic and political thinking.

The main body of the book is something else again. Holmes uses fiction to present his own ideas on reality, but he didn't take the time to develop a convincing story. It alternates clumsily between characters pontificating to one another, and silly semi-incestuous male sex fantasies that are embarrassing to read, and have nothing to do with the rest of the book. I doubt that readers who buy books with this sort of title really need to have the ideas sandwiched between soft-core porn to help them pay attention. A non-fiction presentation would have worked better. "Unless one is a genius, it is best to aim at being intelligible!"

The book seems based on a revelation experienced by the author, a psychiatrist, some years ago. As he describes it, "the subjective sensation was one of having had an ethereal floppy disc slipped slyly into my frontal lobed circuitry and the 'printout' button pushed by some invisible finger." Formerly an exponent of various liberal causes, Holmes then came to see that all that stuff was being taken care of for our benefit by T.H.E.M.—whoever the hell is secretly running this show from behind the scenes. Subsequent discoveries led him to conclude, among other things that the Holocaust and the Vietnam War never really happened, famines are just a media construct, the real purpose of TV advertising is to expand our consciousness, and multinational corporations are actually designed to help us all fulfill our human potential!

One could make quite a few sarcastic comments here. Obviously Holmes doesn't have many European Jews among his acquaintances, and didn't lose any high-school buddies in Vietnam. He has also clearly not taken any vacation flights to Sudan in recent years! Perhaps a case could be made that the mortality figures have been exaggerated, but I don't think that's what Holmes is trying to say. Media reality is certainly inaccurate, but surely disinformation is more often used to conceal the existence of wars and famines than to fabricate them!

As for TV ads, well, I still see no reason to doubt that their main purpose is to separate us from our money. If images of the Earth from space and contact with Higher Intelligence help to do this, then advertisers will not hesitate to use them, along with God, Motherhood, and the American Flag. Sponsors like to have their products associated with powerful ideas.

Holmes describes some cryptic insertions in advertising footage, but he never really accounts for them, and I don't know what to make of them, either. He describes an arm covered with ants, but doesn't say in which ad the image appeared. However, I have noticed that the current Ocean Spray Cranberry Juice commercial shows a couple apparently cross-country skiing—on grass! Do such "glitches" make the ad stick in our minds for longer? This one ad did in mine! Subliminals are very much a reality in our world, and it pays to be alert to their presence.

As for the big financiers, I cannot pretend to understand their motivations. Why should people who already have more wealth than they could possibly spend in one lifetime want to trample over less fortunate human beings to get more? But whatever the motivation, it seems unlikely to be a benevolent one.

Assuming Holmes is correct, and we are being taken care of, what would that mean? Farm animals are also taken care of, until time comes for the slaughter. A parasite needs to keep its host alive, but should that earn it gratitude? Holmes states in his introduction: "This is a story, or an account, about the breeding, cultivation, training, and harvesting of the most recent

crop of the species *Homo sapiens*, now becoming *Sapiens excelsior interstellus."* "Harvesting," did you say, Don? Those of us who have *not* been programmed by that ethereal floppy disc may find these words a bit disquieting!

I can't end the review without giving my own ideas about this Great Revelation. Seems to me that Holmes is tripping out and trying to transpose a Truth from one level of reality to a different level where it does not apply. Yes, from the level of species, all this mayhem may be relatively harmless, or even beneficial; strengthens the gene pool, and all that. It may even be exquisitely well-coordinated for purposes beyond our present comprehension. But on the individual level, where most of us still hang out, things can get very unpleasant indeed. I'm sure the revelation of the Rightness of the Universe has saved Dr. Holmes a lot of the blood, sweat and tears that he used to pour into his naive liberal causes, but children are still starving in Sudan. Even on the planetary and galactic scales, calamities do happen. And the Universe is big enough to encompass them all. Direct experience of this Great Truth may bring reassurance, but the fact that Holmes feels reassured does not change the realities of war and famine. In the long run, all is well and the human race has a good chance of making it through. In the short run, life is a nightmare for a lot of people, and nobody but you and me is going to do anything to change that. Santa Claus does not exist.

If the Cosmic Perspective could be sustained at the individual level, the horrors of suffering and death might seem of no consequence. However, unless they have a crew of devoted caretakers, people who have no aversion to pain and death tend to have short life experiences! Thus, this level of consciousness is rarely found among our own culture. Where it does occur, it is kept in the context of some clearly defined ritual situation—be it a Sundance, or a Leather Bar! On the other hand, among the Hindus, a full-time Holy Man has more chance of attracting some followers to attend to his needs. Even so, after their enlightenment, some people are said to just wander off, never to be seen again. Since Holmes is still with us, I would suspect that he has touched on this level only intermittently!

As a work of fiction, *The Sapiens System* is one of the worst books I have ever read. For those who like to question consensus reality, Holmes does raise some intriguing points for consideration. However, readers who have not experienced a Personal Revelation are not likely to arrive at the same conclusions Holmes did!

o exograpit of only —Geneva Hagen

ALIEN ABDUCTIONS— THE MYSTERY SOLVED

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By Jenny Randles Inner Light Publications, P. O. Box 753, New Brunswick NJ 08903, softbound, 240 pages, \$13.00.

"The Mystery Solved?" Yeah, I've heard that one before. Everybody has solved the UFO mystery at one time or another, from the redoubtable Philip Klass to the equally redoubtable John Keel.

Everyone has a solution, but no answers. Among the latest UFO crazes is the abduction scenario. People from all walks of life, from the very poor to the comfortably rich, are coming forth with sometimes lurid tales of being kidnapped by space aliens and being raped, given physicals, or perhaps just a dose of philosophy about the state of the world—our world, at least.

This all used to be the stuff of which supermarket tabloids were made, but the very idea of abductions has become fashionably serious, starting first, of course, with the case of Barney and Betty Hill in the 1960s, and ranging through the many case histories reported by American abduction investigators Budd Hopkins, Dr. David Jacobs and Dr. Leo Sprinkle, and on through Whitley Strieber's "visitors."

British UFO and paranormal writer Jenny Randles tries to put it all together in just 240 pages, including the bibliography and index. Like her other UFO-related works, the book is replete with many, many case histories. Though dropping a few hints here and there, Ms. Randles doesn't get to the "meat and potatoes" of her book till quite near the very end.

A lot of what Randles has to say is summarized in more detail in next issue's CAVEAT EMPTOR Interview. Let me just say that the "alien visitor" angle is probably the farthest from her mind. In

that regard, she takes a view quite like that of many European UFO investigators. Unlike such folk as Philip Klass, Randles isn't about to say that the victims are just making it all up. She chooses to look for other possibilities.

Abductions appear to be preceded by the onset of what she calls the "Oz Factor," an apparent dreamlike altered state of consciousness in which time slows down, and the percipient loses awareness of his or her immediate surroundings. Many witnesses seem to float through doors and windows towards the flying saucer. The experience might be triggered by a flash of light or an apparent UFO encounter. Were it not for occasional physical traces of a UFO landing and other after-effects, one could easily dismiss it all as just a bad dream.

Like Whitley Strieber, she suggests the possibility of visits from our far-future descendants. Other possibilities include the existence of some atmospheric low-level radiation that can create a sort of hallucination in which a subject perceives archetypal images. The witness might actually even be experiencing an encounter with alien beings, but in the form of some sort of thought projection.

Randles definitely feel that the "spaceships or nothing" approach taken by many American researchers is not the way to go. The book makes it quite clear that abductions are a worldwide phenomenon, and won't go away.

If the present approaches to this kind of investigation have turned you off, or you just want a good primer on some of the better case histories, this book is surely worth your attention.

-Gene Steinberg

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Newswatch:

Ivan finds some pin-headed aliens, and Canada finds some pie-pans

RED STARS OVER RUSSIA

The Soviet news agency, TASS, has been reporting stories of alien contact with a straight face. There are several different versions going around. According to one report, a UFO was observed to land by hundreds of people in one Russian town. Creatures emerged who had stocky bodies and tiny heads with three eyes! They wore boots and silver overalls and carried ray-auns. One teenager was zapped; he disappeared from sight, only to reappear after the UFO departed, with no memory of what had happened in the meantime. The UFOnauts collected some rocks before they left.

According to another report, a Soviet news reporter conducted a telepathic interview with a glowing creature met in the Ural mountains, who claimed to be from a place called "Redstar"!

Russians have always been fascinated by stories of alien lifeforms and the supernatural. Most of us can remember the book called *Psychic Discoveries Behind the Iron Curtain*, and today, seances are even conducted on Russian television. Even so, it's hard to figure out what may be behind this latest series of unlikely reports. Is the Russian government trying to divert attention away from hardships such as the unending line-ups for food items

and daily necessities? Or, perhaps, has that cosmic cybernetic control mechanism that Jacques Vallee postulates simply decided that the Russians were gaining a little too much credibility?

—Geneva Hagen

FLYING PIE-PANS OVER CANADA

UFOs have been making headlines in the tiny prairie town of Langenburg, Saskatchewan, according to a news report on the CBC-TV National. Many residents have reported sightings in recent weeks. A typical report describes a 10-meter-long object hovering over a farm shed for about five minutes in perfect silence. The object was shaped like an "upside-down pie-pan," and the center portion seemed brighter than the rest. Glowing objects have also been reported at night, often with red or blue flashing lights.

Langenburg has been the scene of other UFO flaps in years past.

—Geneva Hagen

CIRCLES IN THE GRAIN

Mysterious circles have been appear-

ing in fields in various parts of the world. These are most common in the areas surrounding Stonehenge. A variety of these perfectly symmetrical designs have appeared, flattening grain over large areas in some cases. The grain is laid absolutely flat, with a very clear line of demarcation at the edge of the circle. It is not at all the same effect that would be created by, say, a large group of people dancing in a circle, which was the first image that came to my mind.

Researcher Pat Delgado has written a book with Colin Andrews, called *Circular Evidence*, which contains color illustrations of these circles; they have also been shown on CBC News on Canadian TV. No conventional explanation has been offered, other than the improbable one of "whirlwinds." Delgado claims that grain from inside the circles even differs in its biological growth processes, and he believes extraterrestrials may be responsible.

—Geneva Hagen

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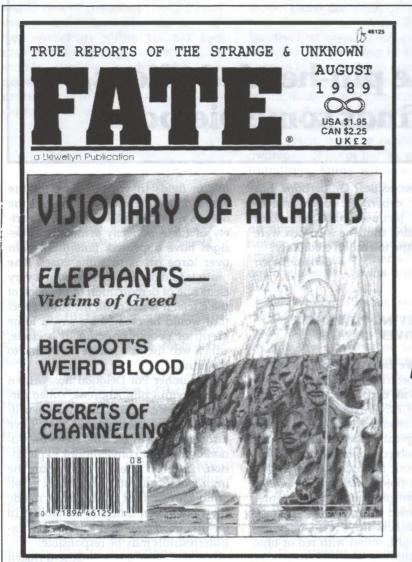
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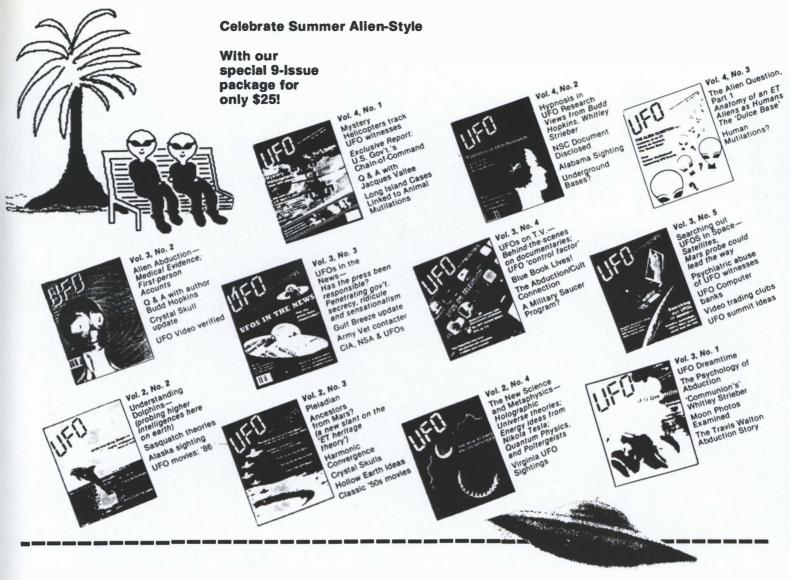
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or many years. rumours have persisted that the U.S. government has in it's possession space ships manufactured on other worlds. as well as the occupants of these interplanetary craft.

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In the late 1940's and early 1950's. both Army and Air Force military units - on direct orders from the Pentagon - rushed to the site of several crashes in the Southwestern part of the United States and carted away the UNEARTHLY remains of both the craft and alien occupants. The wreckage and bodies were eventually put into "deep-freeze" storage at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton. Ohio. According to military sources who later went against orders and decided to talk. Hangar 18 was used for this purpose. To date, no one has been allowed inside - not even Senator Barry Goldwater, who was turned away although he made several requests that he be permitted to check the contents of the hangar.

A THREAT?

Now the TRUTH can be told! Recently because of a new law enacted by Congress known as the Freedom of Information Act. civilian researchers have been able to obtain via court order. classified CIA, FBI and State Department documents which verify the fact that we are not alone in the universe — that there is someone out there besides us.

At one point there was actually a "tug-of-war" going on between various branches of the government as to who was to get final access to these space craft. Said FBI Director.

We must insist upon full access to the discs discovered. For instance, in the Louisiana case, the Army grabbed the discs and would not allow the FBI to have it for examination." Similarly, in 1973. Henry Kissinger telexed our South African Embassy request-

ing they attempt to recover a UFO

that had gone down in the jungle.

J. Edgar Hoover in a signed memo:

Noted UFO researcher Timothy Green Beckley has finally broken the previously unpenetrable barrier of silence that has kept this shocking news out of the national media. Disclosed for the first time is the existence of a highly classified research and development/intelligence operation known as OPERATION MAJESTIC-12 responsible directly and only to the President of the United States.

MJ-12 was established by President Truman to take charge of the technical, sociological and other aspects of the crashed UFOs and the small aliens who were inside the craft when it exploded. MJ-12 was made up of a team of highly trained scientists and military personnel who have been sworn to total secrecy. The group is said to exist even today and now holds the responsibility of establishing an ongoing relationship with UFO beings who years ago set up open communication with our government.

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Is this only a good science fiction story?

Absolutely not! In this definitive, 200 page report, you will see actual reproduction of classified documents. You'll even hear from a U.S. Astronaut who chased UFOs for several days over a military base in Europe, and later saw motion picture footage (now missing from government files) of a UFO that landed at Edwards Air Force Base for military personnel to get a good look at. Publish-



ed also are drawings of the UFO beings found on board the crashed space ships. as well as actual pictures of these aliens taken by a military photographer.

You'll also learn for the first time about:

 The UFO that was shot at over New York's Central Park, and a possible crash that resulted from this incident.

 The actual existence of part of an extraterrestrial "space suit" that has been on limited display for years unknown to the majority of the population.

 The location of a Top-Secret military base in Nevada where several aliens are now believed to be staying with the co-operation of the government.

 A Florida college professor who insists he has seen the actual alien autopsy reports, and knows this is not a fabrication.

A strange liaison that was established years ago between the military and the ETs for an exchange of goods and technology, and how this "deal" might have backfired, resulting in the wholesale abduction of humans by the aliens

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MJ-12 & THE RIDDLE OF HANGAR
18 is a shocking — perhaps disturbing — report. It is a detailed briefing
paper on a subject that will soon be
in the headlines. A Congressional
hearing may be in the works, and major political figures from the director
of the CIA, right on up to the President of the United States may be called to testify. Here are the facts! Here

is all the information that has been kept from your eyes and ears. Also included are actual reproductions of the documents that have remained secret for so long and which change the course of history.



Global Communications (Documents Department) P.O. Box 753 New Brunswick, N.J. 08903

Please send me copy(s) of MJ-12 & THE RIDDLE OF HANGAR 18 with the documents never before made public. I enclose \$13.00 plus \$1 for 4th class postage & handling, or \$2.50 extra for faster First Class service. I understand if I order now I will receive FREE of charge a portfolio of authentic UFO photos

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